



# THE JOURNAL-HERALD

THURSDAY, AUGUST 20, 2020 • Volume 41 – No. 4

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SINGLE COPY– 75¢  
(USPS 277440)

CONTINUING: *THE WHITE HAVEN JOURNAL*  
ESTABLISHED 1879–141<sup>ST</sup> YEAR, NO. 38

CONTINUING: *THE WEATHERLY HERALD*  
ESTABLISHED 1880–141<sup>ST</sup> YEAR, NO. 12



**BIGGEST LUNKER:** At 8.5 pounds, the catfish caught Saturday morning at the White Haven Volunteer Fire Company's annual catfish derby by 11 year-old Ava Radjavitch was the biggest caught at the weekend tournament. It was Ava's first year fishing, but not her last — she also won her own fishing rod at the event. She used dad Brian's gear this year. More photos, page 9.

JH: Ruth Isenberg

## Weatherly Area Schools to open online

by Seth Isenberg

The Weatherly Area School Board voted to start school on September 8 online, and do online only instruction through to the end of the first marking period in early November. At the WASB caucus meeting on Wednesday, Superintendent Theresa Young explained that, due to new COVID-19 guidelines released by the state of PA, remote online instruction is the safest way for students and staff to start the 2020-21 school year.

School board members attending the meeting voted in favor of this approach. Board member Gerry Grega, who phoned in, said he was opposed and supported in-person instruction.

The plan, as sent in a letter to Weatherly Area parents and guardians, is to have grades 7 to 12 doing real-time learn-

ing, taught by WASD teachers, Mondays through Thursdays from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. Fridays, students can make an appointment with teachers if needed for individual help, or study on their own.

Students will have the option to choose Weatherly Area Virtual Education – WAVE, for independent online learning. WAVE programs are not taught by Weatherly Area School District teachers, but are monitored by them, with WASD teachers available for additional help during school hours. In the letter, parents were directed to e-mail [millerl1@weatherlysd.org](mailto:millerl1@weatherlysd.org) to sign up for WAVE, ideally no later than the 16th.

For children from Pre-K to 6th grade, there will be live online classes taught by WASD teachers from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. WAVE is also available to these students.

Superintendent Young closed her letter to the parents and guardians by saying that faculty and staff “are excited to welcome our students back (virtually).” The WASD administration and staff is “committed to providing a safe and healthy return for our school community.”

## Crestwood begins school year online only

by Ruth Isenberg

In a Youtube channel announcement on August 12, Crestwood School District superintendent Robert Meholic broke the bad news. In light of the guidance provided by the governor and the Pennsylvania health department, the

district changed course in its plans for opening school.

At a special meeting on July 30, the board had discussed a hybrid plan for school opening, with parents given the choice of having their children attend classes in person, or signing up for the Crestwood Cyber Academy, which would

provide on-line learning only.

Detailed plans were developed for bussing, classroom distancing, and what would happen if COVID-19 outbreaks caused in-person learning to be interrupted. As of that date, approximately 275 students had signed up for the Crestwood Cyber Academy.

Last week, a construction worker at the high school was diagnosed with COVID-19. Deep cleaning measures were announced. Then came the new guidance from the state. Crestwood moved to distance learning for all students, through the first marking period.



**THE JOURNAL-HERALD****(USPS 277-440) Published weekly at****211 Main Street, White Haven, PA 18661****Telephone (570) 215-0204****Subscription Price—\$40 per year in Luzerne & Carbon Counties, Pennsylvania, payable in advance.****\$45 per year elsewhere, payable in advance.****Periodicals postage paid at White Haven, PA 18661.****POSTMASTER, send address change to:****THE JOURNAL-HERALD****211 Main Street, White Haven, PA 18661****(JAY E. HOLDER, Co-Publisher 1954-1997; CLARA HOLDER, Co-Publisher 1954-2014)****Seth Isenberg, Advertising Sales****Ruth Isenberg, Editor****Steve Stallone, Sports Editor****Member, White Haven Chamber of Commerce****Carbon County Chamber of Commerce****Pocono Mountains Chamber of Commerce****White Haven Economic Development Association**

THE JOURNAL-HERALD is printed with U.S. made soy inks on part-recycled newsprint.

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# Editorial

## Short-term rentals may have long-term impact

by Ruth Isenberg

Almost every municipality in our area is struggling with the impact of short-term home rentals. Since the advent of Airbnb and other on-line home rental companies, homeowners have been able to make some side money by renting their properties to people who enjoy staying in the comfort of a private residence, as opposed to a hotel. In many cases, it has worked out well, for both parties.

In other cases, short-term rentals have caused problems, especially for the neighbors of the properties, and the communities in which they are located. Some renters have not been courteous to their temporary neighbors, throwing loud parties, setting off fireworks, and hogging up parking spaces. Communities object to spending extra money for police, garbage, and sewage treatment because of the increased population.

In lake communities and resort areas, out-of-area companies have bought up properties specifically for short-term rentals. They have less invested in preserving the character of the communities, and more invested in maximizing their profits.

There is no one-size-fits-all solution. Homeowners who do a good job at vetting their short-term tenants and who insist on good behaviour from them shouldn't be prevented from renting out their properties. But no one should have to tolerate bad behaviour from temporary neighbors.

One idea is to register all short-term rentals, and charge a significant fee, enough to offset some of the costs. It won't eliminate conflicts, but it could help develop the resources to deal with them.

# From the Archives

**From  
The Weatherly Herald,  
Thurs., August 20, 1970  
James Faust and  
Cletus Milan, Publishers**

On the front page this week is a photo of some 'youngsters' enjoying swimming in the 'old swimming hole' below the falls at the Hudsonale Dam. Editors noted that at times, the place is as crowded as the Eurana Park lake.

Reunions listed this week were of the Dubetsky family, who held an event at the L&L Firehouse this past weekend; and the annual gathering of the Faust family in Packer Township, held recently.

A story on the front page tells of a lightning strike at 5:45 a.m. Monday morning that knocked off power in the borough for 40 minutes. (It was fast work by the light company employees.)

The Carbon County Fair opens this Sunday at the fairgrounds in Lehigh, closing its run on the 30th. An ad on the back page lists attractions, including a horse show on Sunday the 23rd; The All-Girl Thrill Show on Monday; Harness racing Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday; Children's Day on Wednesday; High School Bands in Review on Thursday night; Rural-Urban Program on Friday, a Pet & Dog Show at noon on Saturday, and All-Star Wrestling that night; and wrapping up the Fair on the 30th at 8 p.m. is the annual Demolition Derby. All attractions are free except the Demolition Derby.

At the August meeting of the Weatherly Area School Board, bus operators Maurice Albee

and Kenneth Vogel requested an increase in rates for transporting school pupils. It was pointed out that contracts for the coming year had already received state approval, so any increase would fall directly on the school district. A meeting will be arranged between the bus operators and school board.

The School District will rent the annex of Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church for Kindergarten classrooms for the 1970-71 year, due to an increase in enrollment. The rental is \$485 a month for nine months.

Yoshiko Narita of Japan, 16, is the new Rotary Exchange Student to spend a year in Weatherly. She is currently staying with Rotarian Daniel Suitch and his family on East Main Street in Weatherly. She arrived after a 13-day ocean voyage on the USS President Wilson, arriving in San Francisco for two days of sightseeing before boarding a plane to Philadelphia, where she was met by the Suitches. She was officially welcomed to Weatherly at Tuesday night's Rotary Club meeting. The story lists eight Weatherly students who had participated in the exchange program, and notes that Miss Narita is the sixth to have visited here. She will be enrolled in Weatherly Area High School as a senior.

**From the Sidelines,  
by Don Garber**

Cross country coach Bill Rowett will be in a rebuilding mode for his team, as only 3 members of last year's team return due to the graduation of 14.

39 boys registered to try out for the Weatherly Knee-Hi football teams. The first

practices have been held, and the first game of the season will be the Sunday after Labor Day. The locals are expecting to field two teams, and will compete against teams from Jim Thorpe on a home and away basis.

At least 31 players are expected to try-out for the Wrecker football team.

The Weatherly Babe Ruth team is "again the bridesmaid and not the bride, as they finished in second place in the Valley League again."

Garber thanks Congressman Dan Flood for acknowledging letters sent to him about releases of water from the Francis Walter Dam — and sending those letters to various agencies connected with the releases. Water is being released three or four times this summer to accommodate canoe clubs (who come) from various parts of the country (for) rapid shooting rides down the river. The letter-writers claim the releases damage the natural state of the river.

When the Hill Climb is held this October 10 & 11, drivers who register at Eurana Park will need to get to the site via Wilbur Street, since the bridge on Evergreen Lane has not been repaired yet. The Weatherly Rotary Club will again be sponsors of the annual climb, and drivers will be out to crack "The Impossible One-Minute Mile."

*In memory of Garber, who passed away this past October.*

An inside photo shows Weatherly HS football coach Pete McMonigle and his assistant, Frank Slezak, at the team's first practice this past



# Public Notices

## PUBLIC NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that the September 2020 meeting of East Side Borough Council will be held on Thursday, September 3, 2020 at 6:30 P.M. in the Centre Street Playground which is located adjacent to the municipal building. For those attending, because of the coronavirus, please bring a lawn chair to sit on for your own personal safety.

**Carol Ann Lenahan, Secretary**  
East Side Borough

## LEGAL NOTICE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that Letters Testamentary were issued in the Estate of Patricia R. Gerhard a/k/a/ Patricia Gerhard a/k/a Pat Gerhard, late of 220 Pine Tree Lane, Weatherly, Packer Township, Pennsylvania who died on the 30th day of June, 2020 by the Register of Wills of Carbon County to Executor, John Austin Gerhard, 1710 W. North Street, Bethlehem, PA 18018. 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**  
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8/27



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## PUBLIC NOTICE

White Haven Planning Commission will meet on August 26, 2020 at 6 p.m. at the borough offices, 312 Main Street, White Haven, to review the final plans for the White Haven Library rail park.

**Linda Szoke**  
Borough Manager

## PUBLIC NOTICE

Penn Lake Park Borough is proposing an ordinance governing short term rentals in the borough. The ordinance will be voted on at the 9/10/2020. meeting. A copy of the ordinance is available for review at *The Journal-Herald* office in White Haven or by emailing the borough secretary at plpboresecr@yaho.com, or by calling the borough at 570-443-8017.

**Penn Lake Park**  
Borough Council

## PUBLIC NOTICE

The Packer Township Zoning Hearing for the application of Broad Mountain Power, LLC to construct and operate a Wind Farm is continued to August 31, 2020 at 5:00 P.M. and will be located at the Packer Township Municipal Building, 2234 Hudson Drive, Weatherly. The public may also attend this meeting remotely via Zoom at <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84603454155> or by dialing 1 929 205 6099. Enter Meeting ID 846 0345 4155. Visit [www.packertownship.com](http://www.packertownship.com) for more information. If you cannot attend but would like to have public comment read into the record, mail to Packer Township Zoning Hearing Board, 2234 Hudson Drive, Weatherly, PA 18255. Please call 570-427-8969 with questions or to obtain meeting minutes.

**Stephanie Stolpe**  
Secretary

8/20

## PUBLIC NOTICE

**PUBLIC NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN** that the Dennison Township Board of Supervisors will hold a public hearing on Wednesday, September 2, 2020, at 5:45 p.m. local time at the Dennison Township Building, 76 Walnut Street, Dennison Township, Luzerne County, Pennsylvania 18661. The purpose of the public hearing is to consider public input for proposed amendments to the Dennison Township Zoning Ordinance. The new uses to be defined, included and regulated within the Dennison Township Zoning Ordinance include:

Medical Marijuana Dispensaries  
Medical Marijuana Growing and  
Processing Facilities  
Substance Abuse Treatment  
Facilities  
Short Term Rentals

In addition to the above uses, a separate ordinance titled Short-Term Rental Ordinance shall also be considered at this public hearing. A copy of the text for the above amendments and Short-Term Rental Ordinance are on file and available for public inspection during normal business hours at the Dennison Township Municipal Building, 76 Walnut Street, Dennison Township (White Haven) Luzerne County, Pennsylvania 18661, the Luzerne County Law Library, 200 North River Street, at the Luzerne County Courthouse and the *Journal-Herald* Newspaper, 211 Main Street, White Haven, Pennsylvania or an electronic copy may be obtained by contacting John Varaly at [jvaraly@ptd.net](mailto:jvaraly@ptd.net). Notice is also given that the Dennison Township Board of Supervisors shall consider adoption and enactment of the above summarized zoning amendments and Short-Term Rental Ordinance on September 2, 2020 at the close of the public hearing.

**Kathleen Stortz,**  
Township Secretary

8/20

# Mullery announces state funding for three local water improvement projects

State grants totaling \$978,174 have been approved to help fund three water and sewer infrastructure systems which serve Luzerne County residents, state Rep. Gerald Mullery has announced.

The grants – all approved by the Commonwealth Financing Authority – are:

\$78,341 Small Water and Sewer grant for White Haven Borough to make improvements to the storm sewer system along Pine and Berwick streets.

\$508,833 H2O PA grant for Rice Township to make repairs to the Ice Lakes Dam.

\$391,000 Small Water and Sewer grant for Hazle Township for the Hollywood Area Sewer Rehabilitation and Replacement project.

“The residents and officials of Rice Township have faced numerous challenges and setbacks over the past five years to get the Ice Lakes Dam repaired,” Mullery said. “To be able to secure state funds, which will fully cover the cost of the repairs, will end this nightmare and return the beauty and tranquility of the Ice Lakes for residents and visitors to enjoy.”

Bob Pipech, chairman of the board for Rice Township, shared Mullery’s sentiment. “This funding will help us put the Ice Lakes Dam project to bed,” Pipech said. “On behalf of myself and Rice Township, we can’t thank Representative Mullery enough in assisting us through this process these past five years. I know the residents around the Ice Lakes will be grateful and all those who use the Ice Lakes recreationally will be happy, as well.”

Mullery added, “I want to thank the Department of Community and Economic Development for recognizing the importance and necessity of all three projects.”

The H2O PA program provides single-year or multi-year grants to independent agencies, municipalities or municipal authorities. The Pennsylvania Small Water and Sewer Programs offers grants for small water and sewer infrastructure projects and can be used to assist with the construction, improvement, expansion, or rehabilitation or repair of a water supply or sanitary sewer system.

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# Area Obituaries

## JANIS M. WENZEL

Janis M. Wenzel, beloved mother and grandmother, of Tamaqua, passed away peacefully on Monday, August 10, 2020, at St. Luke's Miners Memorial in Coaldale, at 89 years of age.

Born Saturday, March 28, 1931 in White Haven, she was the daughter of the late Frank and Edna (Flynn) Jones. She was also predeceased by her husband William Wenzel on February 16, 1986; and daughter, Betsy E. DeAngelo on April 4, 2019.

Surviving are her children, Ann M. Jones, wife of Bill of Tamaqua, Janis Reimiller, wife of Tom of Tamaqua, William F. "Billy" Wenzel of Nesquehoning, Sharon M.

VanBuskirk, wife of Michael of Tamaqua, and Frank G. Wenzel and his wife Lisa of New Ringgold; sisters, Patsy Howell of Manheim, and Maxine Bachman of Spokane, WA; 15 grandchildren; and 15 great-grandchildren.

A graduate of Tamaqua High School, Janis was an active member of Bethany E.C.C. of Tamaqua, having taught Sunday School for many years. She enjoyed sewing, and basket weaving. Janis was a member of the former Tamaqua Women's Club, and was active in the Tamaqua Y.M.C.A. Swim Team Boosters. She revelled in following all her children and grandchildren's sporting and extracurricular events. Janis will be greatly missed by family and friends.

Janis retired from the Tamaqua Area School District, having worked as a secretary in the Administration Office. She managed her family's bakery in Lansford, Wenzel's, which was a mainstay of Tamaqua and Lansford for many years. Many area residents will remember Janis as a cashier at Leiby's Restaurant in South Tamaqua.

Funeral arrangements have been entrusted to the E. Franklin Griffiths Funeral Home & Cremation Services, Inc. of Tamaqua.

A funeral service was held August 14, from Bethany E.C.C. of Tamaqua, the Rev. Kevin Roberts officiating. A graveside committal service was held August 15, at Odd Fellows Cemetery, Tamaqua.

Memorials in her name to: Bethany E.C.C.

Online condolences or a fond memory of Janis may be expressed by visiting, [www.griffithsfuneralhomes.com](http://www.griffithsfuneralhomes.com)



## ALICE EMMA BARRY CAPP

Alice Emma Barry Capp, of White Haven, died Saturday morning, August 15, 2020, in the Lehigh Valley Medical Center, Hazleton.

Born in White Haven, she was the daughter of the late Edwin Kindred and Eleanor Charleton Anthony Barry and was a graduate of the last graduating class from White Haven High School. She earned an associate degree and was a secretary for the Harrisburg Police Department prior to retirement, retiring home to White Haven. She also worked for Polyclinic in the x-ray department and Tristan Associates, both in Harrisburg.

Alice enjoyed spending time with family and loved nature, especially hummingbirds.

She is survived by her husband, Harrison R. Capp; chil-

dren, Cheryl Lynne (Idrissa) Toure of Harrisburg, Lori Leigh Capp (Eric Tarter) of White Haven, and Edwin Barry Capp of White Haven. She is also survived by her grandchildren, Tiffany (Charles) Colton of Russell, NY, Tabitha Capp of White Haven, and Tyrone Capp of Russell, NY; and two puppies, Roland and Emma.

Funeral service will be conducted on Saturday, August 22, 2020, at 1 p.m. from the Lehman Family Funeral Service, Inc., White Haven, with Pastor Charles Colton officiating. Interment will follow in Laurel Cemetery, White Haven.

Friends are invited to join the family for a visitation on Friday, August 21, from 4 to 6 p.m. at the funeral home and Saturday morning from noon until time of service.

Visit the funeral home website at [www.LehmanFuneralHome.com](http://www.LehmanFuneralHome.com) for additional information.



## JOHN J. RUSNOCK

John J. Rusnock Sr., 73, of White Haven passed away Thursday morning, August 13, 2020 in Geisinger South Hospice Unit.

He was born in Hazleton, son of the late John A. and Anna (Mehalko) Rusnock.

A veteran, he enlisted in the U.S. Air Force as his two brothers did. He served honorably during the Vietnam era while stationed in California with the Strategic Air Command Regional Hospital, attaining the rank of sergeant.

John served as a Cub Scout Den Leader, was active in sports, especially with his son, John, was an avid Steelers fan and was a member of the White Haven V.F.W. Prior to retiring, he was employed at Dorr-Oliver and was also a scrap metal dealer.

He is preceded in death by his two sons, to whom he was a devoted father, John J. Rusnock Jr. and Jason Christopher Rusnock; and a brother, Michael Mehalko.

He is survived by his fiancée, Kathleen Dunn, White Haven; a brother, Robert Rusnock and his wife, Ginger, Springridge, LA; two grandchildren, John J. Rusnock III and Joshua Michael Rusnock; and several nieces and nephews.

The funeral was held August 18 in Hazleton. Interment was at Indiantown Gap National Cemetery, Annville.



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Pictures may be included when available.

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# Obituaries

## ERIC LEE HOFFMAN

Eric Lee Hoffman, 37, of Mountain Top, passed away Tuesday, March 31, 2020.

He was born in Berwick on November 21, 1982 and was the son of Carey and Cheryl Hoffman of Mountain Top.

He attended Crestwood High School. Eric served in the United States Army 82<sup>nd</sup> Airborne with an honorable discharge. He received the National Defense Medal, Army Service Ribbon, Expert Marksmanship Qualification Badge with Rifle Bar, Parachutist Badge. He later went on to attend LCCC where he earned a degree in Plumbing and Heating Technologies. He was employed by ON Semiconductor in Mountain Top.

Eric liked to attend auctions. Most of all he love the outdoors, hunting with his wife, riding his motorcycle and spending time with his loved ones.

He was preceded in death by

his sister, Charissa Hoffman.

In addition to his parents, surviving is his loving wife, Ashlen Kuhar Hoffman, sisters Kim, and her husband Joe Bowers, and Holly Hoffman and her companion James; mother and father-in-law, Thomas and Rosanne Kuhar; brother-in-law, Christopher Kuhar; sister-in-law Randie Kuhar; as well as nieces and nephews, all of whom loved him very much.

In lieu of mass cards and flowers, donations can be made to the St. Jude's Building Fund.

A Memorial Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated on Tuesday, August 25, in St. Jude's Church, Mountain Top at 10 a.m. with Reverend Joseph Evanko officiating. Interment will follow in Emmanuel Dorrance Cemetery.

Arrangements are under the direction Desiderio-Lehman Funeral and Cremation, [www.DesiderioFuneralHome.com](http://www.DesiderioFuneralHome.com)

# Blood Drive planned in Albrightsville

A blood drive by Miller Keystone Blood Center will take place from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Saturday, September 12, at Pine Point Plaza in Albrightsville. Blood collections are safe, sterile, and sanitized. Only healthy individuals can donate and appointments are required. Visit [www.GiveaPint.org](http://www.GiveaPint.org) and use sponsor code 8622.

Your generous donations help the patients in our community, from children to adults,

and help ensure that lifesaving blood products are available when they are needed most.

Going to a blood center or blood drive is safe. All Blood Center equipment is decontaminated between uses, and everything that touches blood is sterile and disposable. All signature pads, tables and tablets are sanitized/disinfected between use, Blood Center staff are wearing Personal Protective Equipment according to regu-

latory requirements (including gloves and face shields).

We have implemented the necessary "social distancing" recommendations, and we encourage all donors to complete their medical screening online prior to arriving for their appointment. All donors will be required to wear a face mask at all times.

For any questions, please call Barbara Franzosa at 570-233-0214.

# Veterans Corner

Commentary by John Kearns, USCG Ret., [chiefk@pa.metrocast.net](mailto:chiefk@pa.metrocast.net)

## AERIAL COMBAT OVER LAKE MICHIGAN:

Hunter King, a drone pilot at the Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy, (E.G.L.E.), was surveying an area of the lake near the state's Upper Peninsula in July. It was a pleasant day with light winds and a clear sunny sky. Being an awfully expensive drone, his hand-held controller looked more like a modern aircraft cockpit, than a handheld drone controller. All cameras were looking downward recording Lake Michigan shoreline for erosion.

Then it happened, the camera signal on his display shook violently and a warning light indicated the drone lost one of its propellers. Then the image from the drone started "twirling furiously" after it indicated that another propeller had been torn off.

He then looked up, the drone was gone, and an eagle was flying away, said King. The few seconds-long squabble in the sky over Lake Michi-

gan left one bald eagle victorious and one government drone mangled and destroyed, sending it into the depths of Lake Michigan.

A couple who regularly spends time watching eagles go after sea gulls in the area witnessed the battle but were surprised when they learned that it was a drone, not another trespassing gull, the department said. Gulls are known to raid eagles' nests and take the eggs or young eaglets. At times when food is scarce, the parent eagles hunt as a pair, giving the gulls an opening to raid the nests. This was not the case as one of the eagles was high aloft when the drone entered the eagle's airspace and was promptly attacked.

*Thanks to David Panckeri for providing the lead for this story for me to research.*

## I STAND CORRECTED:

I made the statement that the hate group ANTIFA would never show up at a gathering where they were not protected by radical politics. It appears last weekend at the Sturgis motorcycle rally in South

Dakota, a few showed up and started protesting "social distance violations" by the MC enthusiasts. They were immediately pounced upon by police and removed before the attendees could reach them, more than likely saving their lives as they were outnumbered 20 thousand to one.

I guess South Dakota is a little different in how they handle criminal radicals than Portland or Seattle. They can thank the police whom they want to defund for saving their lives, because their first act of violence, would have likely been their last.

## WHITE HAVEN FIRE CO. CATFISH DERBY:

I have to report everyone had a wonderful time at a wonderful local event. With the pandemic, the great outdoors with ample distancing was a great time with a great turnout of all ages. Much hard work and planning went into the event to allow for a safe, fun time. It was a great job by our Fire Company volunteers, and all who were part of the event.

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# Archives...

## Continued from page 2

Tuesday. Slezak will be teaching physical science, chemistry and earth science at the high school.

### From *The Journal-Herald* August 23, 1990 Clara and Jay Holder, Publishers

The front page photos is of the new Weatherly Hardware store, where the shelves were being stocked ahead of opening this week. The cutline notes that “at a future date, the Weatherly Area Community Pharmacy plans to move into the former Hardware Store site” as more room is needed for both businesses.

The issue features the 1990-91 School District Calendars for both Crestwood and Weatherly Area. The first day of school for both was Wednesday, September 5. Inside, the issue prints homeroom assignments, bus schedules, and other information.

Recently, members of the Penn Lake Association spent “some back-breaking hours pulling out lily pads from the lake.” They were thanked by Penn Lake Borough mayor Ken MacMillan at the August meeting. Plans are being drawn up to replace the wooden bridge over Wright’s Creek.

Residents of Weatherly Borough were asked to voluntarily conserve water since well #3 will be out of service until mid-September.

The future of the footbridge over the Black Creek will be discussed at an upcoming borough council meeting. The bridge has been closed.

Applications for the 1991 Gypsy Moth spraying program

will be available at the borough office.

Boy Scout Troop 25 of White Haven will hold an open house and display of scouting activities on Monday, the 27th, at the home of scoutmaster Herb King.

The Lehighton Band will perform at the bandshell in Eurana Park this Sunday at 7 p.m. with a concert co-sponsored by the Weatherly Rotary Club.

Editors Clara and Jay Holder wrote an editorial squashing rumors that there would be “a shake-up” in White Haven’s police department. The editorial makes a clear explanation that the council and mayor are satisfied “with the current operation of the police department” and its two full-time and one part-time officers.

Mike Sartori, 12, of Kidder Township was named ‘outstanding player’ at a recent mini-camp at the Pro-Shot Basketball Camp in Thornhurst.

Senior Citizens of White Haven held a picnic at the VFW Post 6615 grounds on Thursday, with nearly 70 members in attendance. Ed Jeziorski played his accordion, and led a sing-along.



**ELECTRONICS RECYCLING AT PENN LAKE was a success, with almost a full truck-load generated from residents. Council member and organizer Dave Longmore, shown in front of the truck, said more recycling events will be scheduled in the future.**

*JH: Ruth Isenberg*

## Penn Lake Council approves putting \$3 million borrowing onto fall ballot

by Seth Isenberg

Penn Lake Park Borough’s August meeting on the 13th was a big one. Council voted to advertise a short-term rental ordinance, and to authorize “up to 3 million dollars in borrowing,” something which will need to be voted on.

On the borrowing, council president Paul Rogan explained that “we are looking all over for money” for the dam project. Anyone who spots something is asked to contact council. It was noted that PA’s H2O grants are closed right now, and are hopefully going to reopen again as this project gets underway. Grants will reduce the amount the borough will

need to borrow.

Council voted 4-0 in favor of the resolution — unanimous in the absence of Jill Rosenstock who called in sick.

The price sets construction costs at \$1.9 million, with the rest of the money for legal, financing and easement costs, and a likely coffer dam to retain the lake during construction. Borough solicitor Jack Dean will guide to process of getting the question of approving the borrowing onto the ballot.

The borough’s advisory group will be meeting with the PA DEP via an internet call on the 19th. The group has been using the Murphy Room at the White Haven Area Library, with its high-speed internet

connection and big screen TV.

Rogan noted that there will be a public information meeting about the dam and the borrowing, planned for September 3, under an outdoor tent in the park.

On a related note, council member David Longmore is looking at ways to improve access to the lake. Ideas include adding a dock near the Pagoda, and improving the Hollenback Road area with an access location and or a dock. Other ideas are welcome.

Other business from this meeting, including the discussion on the short-term rental ordinance, will be part of a continuation of this article in next week’s *Journal-Herald*.



# Seth's Sightings by Seth Isenberg

After a busy week, we were grateful for a busy weekend. On Friday afternoon, Ruth and I started out by going out to enjoy a meal at the Albrightsville Volunteer Fire Company, supporting them and their weekly fundraiser which helps the company do what it needs to do in this time of the virus. A group of their volunteers spends hours preparing each weekend's meal, which is ample, reasonably priced, and absolutely for a great cause. This coming weekend's special at the AVFC will be their pork and sauerkraut special, and coming soon is their regionally famous turkey dinner. Along with each week's special,

there's an option of purchasing pizza, burgers and other items...t-shirts, fire extinguishers, etc.

After dinner, we fit in an evening worship service via Zoom on our phone. Once that wrapped up, we went over to the White Haven Volunteer Fire Company's Catfish Derby at Linesville Park, where they had a band playing and a happy group of people enjoying music on a beautiful night. There was also some serious fishing going on. Ruth and I found a socially-distanced spot out toward the bonfire just to hang out and enjoy the music and the fun. We watched the very light airplane traffic, remembering

how busy it used to be at that hour, as planes lined up to land at the New York airports.

I sighted something shooting across the night sky, with the rare pleasure of watching it streak across the sky. It trailed smoke and came apart—Ruth thinks it might have been some space junk burning up in the upper atmosphere.

Saturday after some work in the morning, we attended the Ukrainian Homestead's annual food festival, enjoying a socially distanced ethnic meal, and then seeing the Homestead's dance troupe, and the Lehki Family band—three generations, perform. This year's event, due to the virus, was minimal, but still it was a nice time on a beautiful property. The Homestead is tucked on a hillside outside of Lehighton. It's a retreat for Ukrainians who support the independence of that country. During the summer, they have weekly food sales, occasional entertainment, and an Orthodox worship service every Sunday in a beautiful outdoor grove.

Sunday was a bit cooler. That made it a perfect day to go out with some friends. We had planned a winery trip for a few weeks, and as the sun came out we drove west to the Galen Glen Winery on a hilltop in a far western corner of Carbon County. It's a beautiful property, with vineyards sloping gently away. Galen Glen makes very good wines, and we sampled several while enjoying a cheese and meat tray. We sat, talked, and enjoyed the wine and company, and the view. There was still some daylight, so we continued our journey afterwards into the

Lewiston Valley for a dessert of Heisler's Ice Cream before riding home.

That night, we fired up the computers for work on our monthly LAKE NEWS.

Sightings this week include hawks and foxes, big bucks and more fawns... nothing really of note.

Our update on my uncle, Slater, is that he has been moved from the hospital into a medical acute care rehabilitation facility. It's a guess right now, but it's looking like he will be there a good part of a month. He's slowly mending, but has some challenges to beat. At least at this new place, I will be able to see him.

Sports has me checking ice hockey results daily for all of the games. I'm finding summer hockey odd, but really enjoying some great games. I am disappointed about having college football postponed, but understand the concerns. I'm still wanting to see them play through to the bowl games. As for pro football, it will be nice to see, but I'm less interested until later in the year. Besides, the Patriots are not predicted to play well this season.

To fill some time, both of us are reading books. I am reading two mysteries, one by Martin Walker about his French small town chief of police, Bruno, as he investigates crime in his small community; and the other by Louise Penny about chief of homicide Armand Gamache who, with his team, solves crimes in Quebec. On deck by my bed waiting for me to finish these is a Donna Leon mystery.

Looking ahead, we are planning to make a socially distanced trip to Knoebels this Sunday to see the 70s Flash-

back band (of Hazleton) perform at the bandshell near the bumper cars. We also hope to take a few rides if we can keep distanced enough... and grab a snack. We're continuing to look for other events and activities to fill the days. Ruth has suggested renting a sailboat on Lake Wallenpaupack – and packing a picnic.

A neighbor planted a melon vine. Last week, it produced a nice sized melon. It didn't take long for some deer to find it late one night, and eat half. Given my problems with deer eating my lilies, I'm hardly surprised.

Be safe...

## Coming Events

**AUGUST 22, Saturday—**  
Kid's Clothing Swap, 12-3 p.m., Eurana Park, Weatherly

**AUGUST 23, Sunday—**Faith Fest music night, 6 p.m., Eurana Park Amphitheater, Weatherly

**AUGUST 30, Sunday—**  
Blood Drive, 7 a.m.–12 p.m., Flying Aces Motorcycle Club, [www.GiveaPint.org](http://www.GiveaPint.org), sponsor code 5167

**SEPTEMBER 20, Sunday—**  
LOWLPA Clay & Block Shoot, 1 p.m., Dennison Twp

**OCTOBER 4, Sunday—**  
Dennison Township Volunteer Fire Co. Block Shoot, 12-8 p.m., LOWLPA grounds

**NOVEMBER 29, Sunday—**  
Christmas/Advent Songfest, 2:30 p.m., virtual event

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**LET'S SAVE THE DOGS**  
golf tournament and fundraiser drew prospective pet owners to the Split Rock Golf Course recently. Here, representatives of the Red Rock Pet Rescue with some of the animals eligible for adoption. *JH: Ruth Isenberg*

## Schwab School Restoration group to meet

A Schwab School Restoration meeting is planned for Thursday, August 20, at 7 p.m. at Eurana Park in the picnic shelter beside the band shell.

Committee members are asked to attend so that a quorum can discuss bids and vote on roof repairs to the structure.

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## ALA accepting pizza orders

American Legion Auxiliary Unit 360 in Weatherly will hold an unbaked pizza sale Friday, August 28, from 4 until 6 p.m. at the post home.

The cost for a regular pizza is \$10, \$1 extra for each additional topping. The top-

pings include: Extra Cheese, 3-Cheese, Pepperoni, Mushroom and Sausage.

Deadline to order is Friday, August 21. To order, call Georgia Farrow at 570-427-4527.

CDC regulations will apply when picking up your order.

## Food distribution is Saturday

The Shepherd House Food Panty in Weatherly will distribute food between 10 a.m. and noon on Saturday, August 22.

If you have an emergency and need food before this date, please contact Charlie Hettler at 570-427-8981. If there is no answer, please leave your name and phone number on the answering

machine and he will get back to you.

The Food Pantry is located at 335 Third Street in Weatherly.

### Future Distribution Dates for 2020

September 26  
October 24  
November 21  
December 19

SECOND ANNUAL

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# CHS class of '70 reunion postponed

Due to the pandemic, the Crestwood High School class of 1970 voted to postpone its class reunion until 2021. Edgewood in the Pines, the site of the reunion, agreed since the Governor's orders are that no more than 25 people are allowed at an indoor event. Edgewood provided a new date of September 11, 2021 for the reunion. The IceBreaker will be held on Friday, September 10 at The Cabin at Edgewood.

# Friday fun at the Catfish Derby



The White Haven Fire Company Catfish Derby kicked off on Friday with music by the Wells Rier Band, above, great fire company food, below, and a blazing bonfire, bottom. *JH: Seth & Ruth Isenberg*



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# Carbon County property transfers complete through August 9

## Kidder Township

Kenneth D. Shiffert to Stonefly, LLC, Nazareth, property at 797 State Rt. 940 East, Lake Harmony, \$259,399.60.

Susan E. Henry to Anthony Romano, Willow Grove, property at 21 Hazard Run Road, Lake Harmony, \$189,000.

Anthony F. Casmirri Jr. to Adam Parcell, Media, property at 40 Estates Drive, Lake Harmony, \$196,000.

Ronald A. Leone to Lorick, LLC, Berwick, property at 97 Pineknoll Drive, Lake Har-

mony, \$167,000.

Phyllis Lynn Heiser to Alfred R. Sindaco, Cape Coral, Florida, property along Maplewood Road, Split Rock, Lake Harmony, \$257,000.

Gerald McGinley to Michael Konikov, New York, New York, property at 7 Midlake Drive, Lake Harmony, \$244,000.

Stuart I. Gelman to Richard Crawford, Brookhaven, property at 54 Ski Jump, Lake Harmony, \$202,500.

John E. Christoph to Wil-

liam J. Reese Jr., 51 River Road, White Haven, property at 51 River Road, \$322,000.

Alice M. Herling to John F. Herling Jr., Feasterville, Trevoise, Lot 123, Pocono Mountain Lake, \$1.

Irvin D. Franklin to George Custance, Merrick, New York, property at 10 Woods End Road, Lake Harmony, \$375,000.

Aleksandr Kaplunovsky to Jaime L. Weinstein, Warrington, property at 69 Ruffed Grouse Court, Lake Harmony, \$145,000.

## Lehigh Township

Tracey M. Sedorovich to KFN, LLC, 679 S. Stagecoach Road, Weatherly, property on South Stagecoach Road, \$95,000.

## Weatherly

Stephen Barnic IV to Matthew James Ruch, 319 Yeakle St., Weatherly, property at 319 Yeakle St., \$109,000.

Allen R. Hinkle to Allen R. Hinkle, 327 Sixth St., Weatherly, property at 327 Sixth St., \$1.

Donald G. Hudock to Nagy Sara Lukacs, 505 Fairview St., Weatherly, property at 505 Fairview St., \$145,000.



## 3 ways to make your yard a safe haven for beautiful birds

(StatePoint) Without a few measures in place, your home and garden could be hazardous to birds. Here are some great ways to create a safe haven for beautiful flying visitors.

- Garden organically: Conventional pesticides can be toxic to birds, so ditch the dangerous chemicals. Did you know that there are essential oils that you can use instead that will do the job of warding off pests without harming birds -- or people for that matter? Protecting birds is not only the right thing to do, but their health and safety helps ensure their ability to feed on the very pests you're trying to eliminate.

- Make windows visible: Your beautiful view can be a safety hazard to birds. Each year, millions of wild birds are killed in the U.S. alone by striking windows. Fortunately, there's an easy action you can take to prevent this from happening, and it is to apply decals that reflect ultraviolet sunlight to your home's windows, particularly those windows that are highly reflective of open sky. Doing so has been proven to substantially reduce the likelihood of bird strikes. Those from WindowAlert feature patterns that give the appearance of slightly frosted

translucent glass, but glow like a stoplight for birds. The brand also makes WindowAlert UV Liquid, a high-tech liquid that offers even greater protection when applied between decals. To learn more, visit WindowAlert.com.

- Introduce birdfeeders, mindfully: Birdfeeders attract birds to your yard and give them a place to rest and refuel. However, it's important not to unintentionally create a safety hazard with this addition. Because feeding birds are easily frightened and apt to take wild, evasive flight, the risk of birds striking windows can be elevated near birdfeeders. By using window decals, as well as by positioning feeders closer than three feet or farther than 30 feet from windows, you can create a safer space. Already have birdfeeders? Take a look at their current placement and make changes as needed.

"This season, becoming a better environmental steward starts right in your own backyard. By making a few small updates to your home and garden, you can protect the lives of wild birds," says Spencer Schock, founder of WindowAlert.

PHOTO SOURCE: (c) JillianCain / iStock via Getty Images Plus



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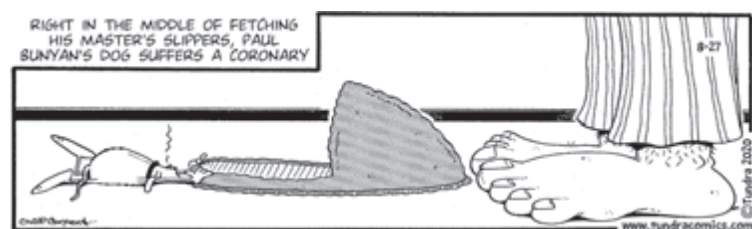
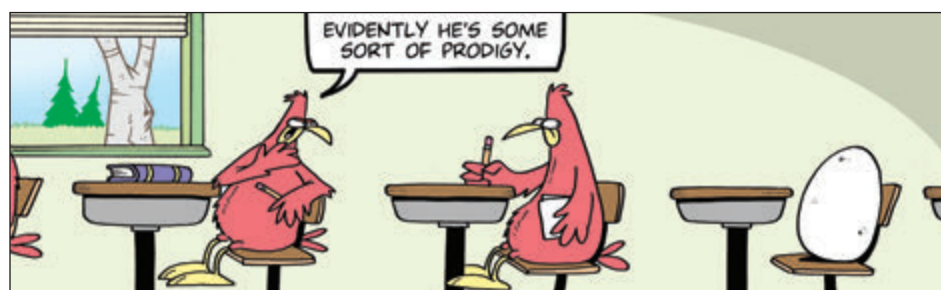
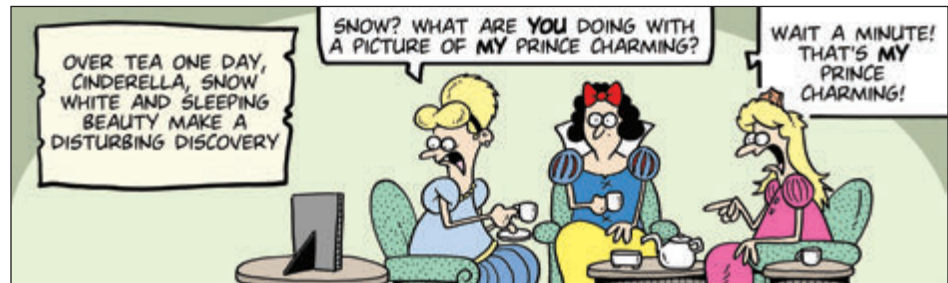
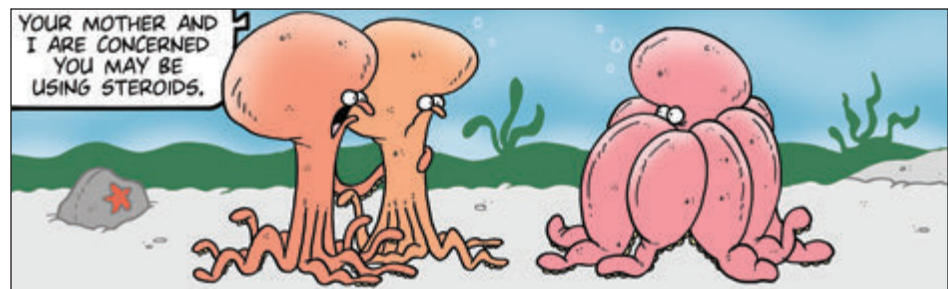
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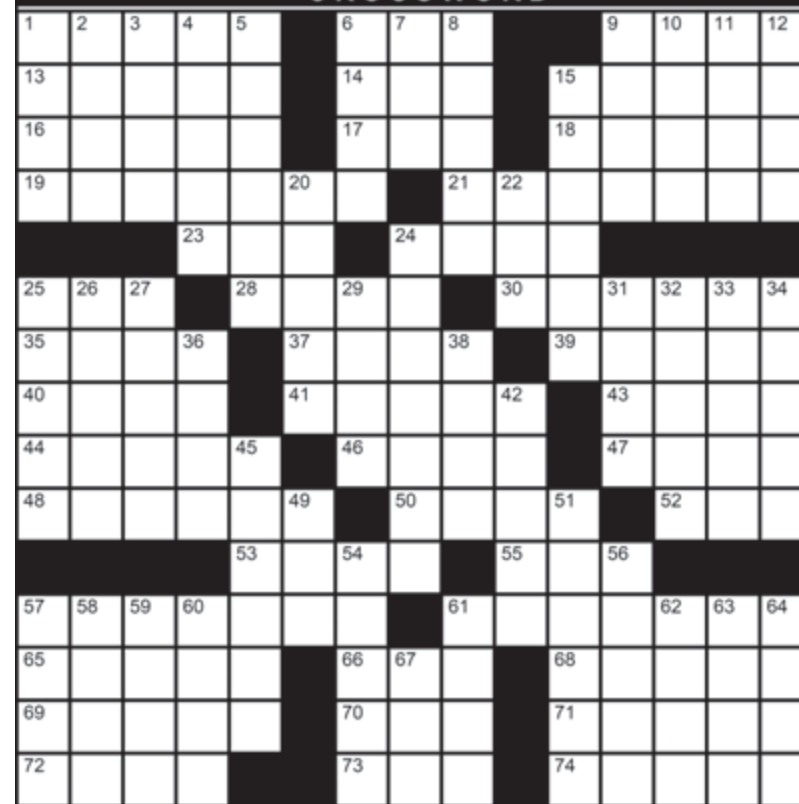
**ACROSS**

1. It may be fixed or blank
6. Sometimes appears between dogs
9. Wild West card game
13. Deprived of a limb
14. Go wrong
15. \_\_\_\_ and tat-toed
16. Tsar's edict
17. Waikiki garland
18. Propelled like Argo
19. \*Last year's Super Bowl MVP
21. \*Recipient of this year's first pick
23. Madame Tus-sauds' medium
24. Jack's legume
25. Communications regulator, acr.
28. Dry as dust
30. Echo
35. Yours and mine
37. Cold War ene-mies, slang
39. Common candle shape
40. Home of the Utes
41. Shinbone
43. Scotia preceder
44. Furiously angry
46. Like watching paint dry
47. Gulf War missile
48. Oozed
50. Clump
52. Yo
53. Common aller-gens
55. Not color but
57. \*The goal
61. \*Primary football unit
65. Boy Scout's \_\_\_\_ badge
66. Pod dweller
68. Word of mouth
69. All worked up
70. Poetic "ever"
71. Home to largest mammal
72. Threads
73. \*Defensive \_\_\_\_
74. Locomotes

**DOWN**

1. Millionaire's turf, according to 2009 Oscar-winner
2. Bangladeshi cur-rency
3. Wet nurse
4. Plant again
5. Swellings
6. Elvers
7. 're
8. Human social group
9. \*Yellow and un-wanted
10. Saint's "head-dress"
11. Movie spool
12. \*Vegas numbers
15. Laura Ingalls' hat
20. Make an effort
22. Organ of balance
24. Sleep disrupters
25. \*Encroachment and false start, e.g.
26. Type of mandarin
27. Have a hanker-ing
29. \*2020 Super Bowl winning coach

31. VSCO girl's fa-vorite shoe brand
32. Geologic period
33. Variety show
34. \*Patriot no more
36. Pinta or Santa Maria, e.g.
38. Perfect house-plant spot
42. \* \_\_\_\_ Bowl, col-lege game 1982-2000
45. Indicate
49. What Dundee and Dunedin have in common
51. \*Last year's Heisman winner
54. Conical dwelling
56. Draw a conclu-sion
57. Do like exhaust pipe
58. Evil Roman emperor
59. What oxen do to plows
60. Acne symptoms
61. \*One of ten needed for first down
62. Church echo
63. Provoke or annoy
64. European sea eagles
67. Poetic "even"

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# Journal Sports

## Should we, or shouldn't we have a fall sports season?

by Steve Stallone  
Sports Editor

### On the Sly

The long, agonizing wait is almost over for Pennsylvania's athletes. What comes next is anybody's guess.

Since high school sports was shut down in the spring amid health concerns brought on by the coronavirus, athletes throughout the Commonwealth have been waiting for the Pennsylvania Interscholastic Athletic Association to give the green light on playing competitive sports again.

On Friday, the PIAA is scheduled to meet again -- perhaps for a final time -- to discuss and determine if the 2020 high school fall sports season will happen or not. The million-dollar question: Should there be a fall sports season, or should state Gov. Tom Wolf's "recommendation" to delay high school sports until at least the end of the calendar year be followed?

There are two sides to every story, and this one clearly has both. Both sides have legitimate arguments supporting their case.

On the one hand, many athletes, parents, coaches and school officials feel that if safety guidelines are in place, high school sports can and should return this fall. Their argument is based on the fact that youth sports has returned this summer, and seemingly done so safely. Little League and Babe Ruth baseball has been played since the governor turned things "green" a few months back. So have AAU and travel leagues. Golf courses have re-opened. Even

high school athletes have been allowed to return to practice, with social distancing and CDC guidelines in place.

They feel that sports is an integral part of life, providing physical, mental and social benefits that are just as important as your ABCs.

The other side of the argument is safety. If high school sports resume this fall, there's a real risk of contracting the potentially deadly COVID-19 virus that has already killed thousands and sickened thousands more in this state alone.

Many of Pennsylvania's schools have announced they will begin the school year online, right where classes ended in the spring. Others have said they'll bring students in a few days a week, and have the rest of the learning from home. Furthermore, some school districts and leagues have already said they won't be playing fall sports, and have already scrapped the season, with the possibility of moving it to the spring.

Some of the largest universities and collegiate sports leagues have already shuttered their fall sports season - and on-campus learning - amid fears that the coronavirus is not under control, and that its spread is imminent until a vaccine can slow it down.

The PIAA met with the governor's staff last week, partly in hopes of getting more guidance, and in part to get Wolf's blessing to play fall sports in

2020. Wolf did not back off of his recommendation, though he did say the decision rests on the school districts themselves.

On Monday, one PIAA official said that she felt "fairly comfortable" that fall sports can be played and played safely during this time. So far, however, leagues in the Philadelphia and Pittsburgh areas have already shut down their fall sports seasons. Others have also done so, or reduced schedules to include conference-only play against other local teams. District and state playoffs might be cancelled, even if there is conference play.

Like everyone else, I have an opinion on what should be done. A former high school and college athlete myself, sports were a huge part of my life and my upbringing. Sports provided many opportunities and experiences, opened many doors for me, and helped make me the person I am today.

Over the past 35 years, sports have been a way of life

for me as a writer. Surely, you would think I'd be in favor of high school athletes playing this fall.

As important as I feel sports are to a child's development, to a society as a whole, and to me personally as a way of life, I can't say I'm in favor of an immediate return. At the end of the day, I still don't believe it is completely safe out there, and I don't believe the benefits outweigh the risks. My recommendation is to wait things out, in part at least.

There are certain sports where there is limited person-to-person contact - the main culprit in the spread of the coronavirus. Golf and tennis, two of the traditional fall sports, I believe could continue safely. With some modifications, cross country

might also fit into a "safe" fall sport. Contact sports, such as football and soccer, cannot, and should not return at this time.

I suggest we move sports such as football and soccer to the spring, even if it means shortening the seasons to make it all work. Start the winter sports season late, and push the normal spring sports season to a later start than normal in 2021 to accommodate such a move.

Moving the sports around, and being creative with scheduling could still provide our high school athletes with some semblance of a normal sports season during this far-from-normal time.

The most important thing in all of this remains the safety of the athletes, their coaches and their families. It's hard to think of life without sports, but it's impossible to think about sports without life.

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# Here are my NFL 2020 predictions

by Joe Platania

Each August, I make my NFL full-season predictions. I've been doing it for years, and last August I went 60%+ on the division winners and 60% on the playoff teams. Not bad at all. Here's how I think things will shake out this year.

## AFC NORTH

1. Baltimore (12-4) – Put a pass rush on this roster and watch out.
2. Pittsburgh (10-6) – A blossoming defense and a healthy offense will keep them close.
3. Cleveland (6-10) – Yet another rookie coach and COVID-19 will hold back the Browns.
4. Cincinnati (5-11) – Joe Burrow will help, but this team is still rebuilding.

## AFC EAST

1. Buffalo (10-6) – Best de-

fense in division propels Bills to the top.

2. Miami (8-8) – This is the team that will benefit most from Patriots' fall.
3. New England (7-9) – Absence of opt-outs hurts as much as Brady's departure.
4. NY Jets (4-12) – Darnold doesn't have enough around him to make these Jets fly.

## AFC SOUTH

1. Indianapolis (11-5) – Rivers, solid O-line make Colts legit.
2. Tennessee (9-7) – Henry shines again, but Tannehill comes back to earth.
3. Houston (6-10) – Memo to Bill O'Brien: You should have one job, not two.
4. Jacksonville (3-13) – Either put Jags on the clock or move them to London.

## AFC WEST

1. Kansas City (12-4) – They're

champs, but this division is tougher.

2. Denver (9-7) – I like what I see here – building a smart, aggressive offense.
3. LA Chargers (8-8) – One QB is a rookie, the other is Tyrod Taylor, which means....
4. Las Vegas (5-11) – This team can run, but will that be enough? Hardly.

## NFC NORTH

1. Minnesota (11-5) – If they stay healthy, this an underrated, dangerous bunch.
2. Green Bay (9-7) – The window closing fast on Rodgers and this team.
3. Chicago (6-10) – Foles will be the QB here, but that won't help much.
4. Detroit (5-11) – Stafford's career has been wasted here, and that's a shame.

## NFC EAST

1. Dallas (11-5) – This division hasn't had a repeat winner since 2004.
2. Philadelphia (9-7) – Who catches the ball? Is Wentz healthy enough to throw it?
3. NY Giants (7-9) – There's a glimmer of hope in America's biggest city.
4. Washington (4-12) – New name? "Hail To The Door-mats."

## NFC SOUTH

1. New Orleans (12-4) – Division got tougher, but Saints are still best.
2. Tampa Bay (9-7) – Brady will help, but the D will tell the tale.
3. Atlanta (8-8) – Rallied well late last year, but still mediocre at best.
4. Carolina (4-12) – Rivera's departure might hurt more than Newton's.

## NFC WEST

1. Seattle (11-5) – 'Hawks are the NFC's Ravens.
2. San Francisco (10-6) – The Super Bowl runner-up won't fall far.
3. Arizona (9-7) – Murray is a little man with a big game, and he now has Hopkins, too.
4. LA Rams (6-10) – LAR still has good pieces, but just not enough in this division.

## AFC Playoffs

AFC seeds: 1. Kansas City 2. Baltimore 3. Indianapolis 4. Buffalo 5. Pittsburgh 6. Denver 7. Tennessee

Wild Card Weekend: Baltimore over Tennessee, Denver over Indianapolis, Pittsburgh over Buffalo

Divisional Round: Kansas City over Denver, Baltimore over Pittsburgh

AFC Championship: BALTIMORE over Kansas City

## NFC Playoffs

NFC seeds: 1. New Orleans 2. Dallas 3. Seattle 4. Minnesota 5. San Francisco 6. Philadelphia 7. Tampa Bay

Wild Card Weekend: Dallas over Tampa Bay, Seattle over Philadelphia, San Francisco over Minnesota

Divisional Round: New Orleans over San Francisco, Dallas over Seattle

NFC Championship: NEW ORLEANS over Dallas

## SUPER BOWL 55

Feb. 7, 2021; Raymond James Stadium; Tampa, Florida (CBS)

Sure, I'm based in Baltimore, but I haven't been a homer. For only the fifth time in the Ravens' 25-year history, I'm picking them to win it all. The stars are lined up perfectly. The Super Bowl is being played in the same stadium, 20 years later, where the Ravens won their first title... and it's on the same TV network, too. The Ravens have a near-perfect roster and a stable coaching staff. It all has the makings of a special season in one of America's great football cities. **Baltimore 34, New Orleans 26**

# Puzzle Answers

S	T	A	R	E	E	A	T	F	A	R	O
L	A	M	E	D	E	R	R	B	L	U	E
U	K	A	S	E	L	E	I	O	A	R	E
M	A	H	O	M	E	S	B	E	N	G	A
			W	A	X		B	E	A	N	
F	C	C		S	E	R	E	R	E	V	E
O	U	R	S		R	E	D	S		T	A
U	T	A	H		T	I	B	I	A		N
L	I	V	I	D		D	U	L	L		S
S	E	E	P	E	D		G	L	O	B	H
						N	U	T	S		H
E	N	D	Z	O	N	E		Y	A	R	D
M	E	R	I	T		P	E	A		R	U
I	R	A	T	E		E	E	R		O	C
T	O	G	S			E	N	D		W	E

2	4	8	7	5	1	3	9	6
3	7	1	4	6	9	5	8	2
9	6	5	8	2	3	1	7	4
8	5	9	6	4	2	7	3	1
6	1	2	5	3	7	9	4	8
7	3	4	1	9	8	6	2	5
5	9	7	2	1	4	8	6	3
4	8	6	3	7	5	2	1	9
1	2	3	9	8	6	4	5	7

Veteran NFL beat writer Joe Platania has over forty years of experience in the Baltimore print, radio, and TV media market. He has covered the Ravens since the team's inception and is the only sports journalist in Maryland history to have been a finalist for both the annual Sportscaster of the Year and Sportswriter of the Year. Today, he covers the Ravens and the NFL for The Sports Column.

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# Journal Sports

## Nick Saban has a point: “Players are a lot safer with us”

by Frank Fear

Football coach Nick Saban’s comments, which were made to Sports Illustrated last week, make sense if you think

about big-time college football--the type of ball played at the major schools, places like Penn State, Southern Cal, Notre Dame, and Saban’s Alabama. College football at

that level is highly structured, regimented, and supported by a large staff and significant funding. Players are likely to be safer in a football bubble than they would be if they studied at home or were integrated into the broader campus community.

But here’s the thing. While the argument can be made that those schools have the capacity to organize and offer a safe environment for players, ‘capacity to’ is different from what’s happening. Many players around the country--including PAC-12 players, who wrote an article last week in the Players Tribune--think there’s a gap. And Oklahoma had to push back the season opener because several players tested positive for COVID-19.

It’s beyond me why the NCAA has refused to play a national leadership role--bringing conferences and schools together to work out a common and shared plan. Rather than lead, the NCAA punted the ball to the conferences. And guess what? The major conferences--called ‘The Power 5’--are going in different directions. The Big Ten and PAC-12 have decided to call-off football in 2020, while the other conferences--led by the Saban’s Southeastern Conference, Oklahoma’s Big 12, and Notre Dame’s Atlantic Coast Conference --are going ahead.

It’s clear that many players want to play, and they have developed a plan to do just that. It includes giving players the right to opt-out of the season without

penalty because of health concerns (they’d get a redshirt year and retain their scholarship). And the Ohio State starting quarterback has launched a petition drive to get the Big 10 to change its position.

If things remain as they stand today, college football will soon face a different problem--a self-inflicted problem--caused by not coming together to work out and follow a shared plan. Some fans, and not others, will get to see their teams play, and significant media money will flow to some schools (and conferences) and not others.

College football 2020 isn’t only a story about the impact of COVID-19. There’s more to that story, and it’s evolving, too.

### Jr. Babe Ruth

## Butler Legion tops White Haven

Josh Halcisak pitched a complete-game two-hitter and struck out 16 batters to help Butler American Legion shut out White Haven 7-0 in Valley Junior Babe Ruth baseball action last week. Halcisak also did damage at the plate with a pair of base hits. Christian

Smith doubled and singled, while Derek Antolick, Jacob Wolfe, Logan Stemko and Lucas Barna all had singles for the winners.

White Haven was led by Mason Fanelli and Klaus Eroh, each with a single.

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