



THE JOURNAL-HERALD

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CONTINUING: *THE WHITE HAVEN JOURNAL*
ESTABLISHED 1879–141ST YEAR, NO. 27

CONTINUING: *THE WEATHERLY HERALD*
ESTABLISHED 1880–141ST YEAR, NO. 1



GRADUATION WEEK for the Weatherly Area High School Class of 2020 began with a Baccalaureate service in Eurana Park on Sunday. Above, students and parents gathered for a concert by Faith Church praise group Starr before the event. Below, members of the Weatherly Ministerium David Clark, left, and Rodney Murphy, confer about program details. *JH: Ruth Isenberg*



WH Chamber grateful for food donors

The Greater White Haven Chamber of Commerce has raised \$5,620 for White Haven Market Gift Certificates for businesses and families whose income has been decreased due to the government shutdown. Chamber president Linda Miller has mailed more than 191 gift certificates to 72 families so far.

Chamber member White Haven Veterinary Hospital is hosting a pet food drive for

food will be given out to those who need it. The event is first-come, first-serve, and masks must be worn.

Miller said that additional White Haven Market vouchers will also be handed out at that time.

Local officials were quick to express gratitude for the Chamber's contribution.

White Haven Borough manager Linda Szoke released this statement:

On behalf of the Borough Council and Mayor, we cannot thank you all enough for your hard work. Helping the residents in the entire area during the last couple of months has been great. You all helped in so many different ways to keep things positive, cooperated with curfews, helped fellow business owners out. There is just too much to name it all.

Please know we appreciated it all.

Thank you, Thank you, Thank you!



the families and businesses affected by Covid-19 that have pets this Saturday from 2-4 p.m. Ease The Pet-Demic is the theme, and in conjunction with Hill's Science Diet, puppy/dog food and kitten/cat



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White Haven Economic Development Association

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From the Archives

EDITOR'S NOTE: With this issue, *The Weatherly Herald* portion of this newspaper is 140 years old.

**From
The Weatherly Herald,
June 4, 1970
James Faust and
Cletus Milan, Publishers**

The photo on the front page was of the Memorial Day service in the Union Cemetery, with Paul Rataczak, president of the United Veterans organization, in the foreground.

This issue features a two page photo spread of all the graduates from Weatherly Area High School. Among 40 businesses sponsoring the pages are Rosebud's Beauty Salon, John Keller Floor Covering, Kunkel's Lumber Yard, Lamont's Pharmacy, Petchel Auto Body, Somer's Agency, Cal Pane Photo Studio, Kathryn Koehler Cut Rate Store, Petruska's Barber Shop, Allen Drumbor Coal and Oil, Ken Vogel Garage, Tor Builders, Alice Peiser Beauty Shop, Cunningham's Store, W. A. Gregory & Sons, and Hinkle's Market.

Estimated costs for construction of the new Carbon County Home came in at \$4,657,601, which was over \$600,000 below estimated costs. The combination one and two-story building will be steel frame with masonry construction, to be fire proof. It will be electrically heated. The 200-bed nursing home will replace the century-old county home at Laurytown.

William Righter Reabold of Jim Thorpe is the Carbon County Tourist Promotion Agency's citizen of the year.

He was honored at a testimonial banquet at the Trainer's Inn. He was presented with a wall plaque, made by TPA member Joseph Kriss of Kriss Pines Hatchery. William Van Dyke of Weatherly, president of the TPA, was master of ceremonies.

The Weatherly Lions Fishing Derby is this Saturday at Dietrich's Grove in Hudson-dale.

Specials at Baran's meats in Beaver Meadows include Turkey Drum Stix at 29¢ lb.

Starting this Sunday, Bell of Pennsylvania will be adding a new exchange to your local calling area – 722 – White Haven (in addition to 443).

The Weatherly Babe Ruth squad has won three in a row, defeating Tresckow at Beaver Meadows, pounding out 19 runs to their two. Earlier in the week, Weatherly hosted McAdoo and Billy Hart pitched a two hitter in a 12-4 win, and on the road in the opening game, beat Beaver-Banks 15 to 9.

**From the Sidelines,
by Don Garber**

On Monday, June 8, the Weatherly Little League will start its 36-game season at Eurana Park. Four teams' rosters were printed in this issue.

Garber wrote that the local Babe Ruth team "is going great guns in the Valley League," winning their first three games.

The Weatherly 4-H Horse and Pony Club will host their first event in their newly constructed ring on the Henry property in Packer Township by the White Church starting

at 10 a.m. this Sunday morning. There will be 16 events. There's plenty of parking, and refreshments will be available.

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

**From
The Journal-Herald,
June 7, 1990
Clara and Jay Holder,
Publishers**

The front page photos show the damage done when vandals threw rocks through the doors of the White Haven Municipal Building either late Monday night or early Tuesday morning. A storm door of a private home was smashed that night, and a STOP sign downed. Police are investigating.

The tentative budget for the Weatherly Area School District has a tax increase due to a jump of 23 mills and a budget of \$4,654,875 – an 11.75% increase over last year's, approved on an 8-1 vote, director Patricia Weigand opposed.

Rising expenses of the White Haven Municipal Authority had White Haven Council voting to increase the sewage fee by \$15 per quarter.

After the street sweeper sent from the District 11 equipment center broke down, three times, council decided it would be easier to ask property owners to sweep up in front of their properties, leaving the sweepings in neat piles. When the piles are made, property owners are asked to call the borough secretary, who will send out new street commissioner Eugene Hayes to pick these up.

See ARCHIVES, page 6

Editorial

Change must come

by Ruth Isenberg

The turmoil engulfing urban centers across our country can feel far away. The images on the internet and television we see of rioting and looting aren't reflected in our area. But this civil disorder will have a long-lasting impact for us here, as much as for those living in the cities.

Many of us have friends and relatives in the places we are seeing as centers of violence. We enjoy visits to Philadelphia and New York for art, culture, sports and entertainment. We mourn for the destruction we see, and empathize with the people in those communities that will have to rebuild their homes, their businesses, their lives.

In no way do we condone the brutality against minorities that has prompted these protests. Our society has looked away as our justice system has discriminated against minorities, from street-level policing through the court system. Every time a black man or woman is killed by a police officer, there is outrage – but little corrective action. This is wrong, and protest is a proper response.

Unfortunately, forces on both the left and the right feel free to leverage those justified protests into events that destroy the communities most affected by injustice in the first place. Politicians who use the resulting chaos to make political points should be ashamed – and they come from both sides.

Expect to see an exodus from cities to rural areas like ours. Covid-19 had a greater impact in cities than it did elsewhere because of the relative closeness in which people live. Add to that this current violence and looting that city governments seem unable to get under control, and those who can get away will do their utmost to move away because they longer feel safe.

We need to be prepared to welcome them, but also to ensure our own values and lifestyles aren't compromised as a result. It's only going to work if we all work together, and it's not at all clear our country is still capable of doing that.

Public Notices

PUBLIC NOTICE

The Packer Township Zoning Hearing Board will hold a continued hearing for the application of Broad Mountain Power, LLC to construct and operate a Wind Farm on June 17, 2020 at 6:00 P.M. 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 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

6/4

Visit our website at pocononewspapers.com or find us on Facebook for more photos, news, and features.

Penn Lake begins looking at dam repair funding

by Seth Isenberg

Penn Lake Park Borough is taking the first steps towards making repairs to the dam. The PA Department of Environmental Protection's office that monitors small dams like Penn Lake's is looking to have the dam upgraded. Engineers from Borton-Lawson, who have provided monitoring and guidance to the borough over the years, are preparing some plans and putting prices and a timetable on work that must be done. An early estimate on the cost of the work is, according to council president Paul Rogan, between \$2.8 million for pipes and valves, dam reinforcement and building a new spillway, to as much as \$5 million for a full replacement.

This was the lead topic for the regular Penn Lake Borough council meeting, held May 14 on the internet.

There are feelers out about funding sources like grants for the repairs and construction work, then there is obtaining a large loan. For big financing, a question to approve the borrowing will likely need to be put on the ballot this November.

In her report to council,

Mayor Deb Kryszicki is recommending that the park and beaches stay closed for now. She explained that there are out-of-area guests who do not understand that the public spaces are closed and there's been at least one argument over it.

Kryszicki thanked the first responders who came out on May 2 for a parade. She read the police report, which shows 27.33 hours in April, with one trespassing incident, one noise complaint and a wires down incident. She is warning speeders that police enforcement of speed limits is likely. On notice are drivers for the delivery services, and for the morning newspaper delivery.

Council members have reached out to the PPL representative about adding an electric pole or two into the park in order to put a light or two at the basketball court. It was agreed to wait for the playground improvement project to have the work done. The cost is just a regular bill for the electricity used.

Council member Dave Longmore reports that after a road inspection, quotes are being sought for having the

potholes hot patched. As long as the costs come in under \$19,990, council can select from the quotes. Otherwise the work will need to be bid.

Paragon Total Home Maintenance submitted the low bid for lawn care for around the lake, for \$3,900 (up about \$600 from last year). Nature Works is being discussed as the provider of spraying of the lake's bladderwort and lily pads.

Prices will be sought on the cost of removing the old boats and junk that are beside the dam and beach. It was also agreed to hold off on bringing a Job Johnny in for the beach until it opens.

Council was unanimous in authorizing a borough credit card, with a small limit, to pay for small recurring items. These are now done by individual council members, then reimbursed. Rogan will check with PNC bank to learn more.

In the treasurer's report, there's \$12,846 in the general fund after a transfer of \$2,884 to the dam fund (bringing that account to \$37,827). The interest bearing general fund added \$2,326 in earned in-

come tax and \$54 in interest, to total \$83,487.

Bills were \$16,720 — mostly the regular \$10,317 for the sewers loan, \$3,863 for monthly garbage and \$858 for police services. Other items of note were \$435 for a grinder pump repair, and \$631 for Attorney Jack Dean's work for the borough, in particular, for about the dam.

Receipts were \$22,064 for January and February sewer fees, \$12,675 in garbage fees collected, \$8,652 in real estate taxes collected, \$2,326 in earned income tax, plus \$1,100 in zoning permit fees.

Barb Sudimak asked council for a large "dip" on Horseshoe Drive to be repaired this year. Longmore pointed out the road is not damaged there. Rogan said they would look to see if some material can be added. The repair will be on next month's agenda, to be discussed then.

More from this meeting in next week's issue.

The June regular meeting of Penn Lake Council is still likely to be via the internet, to start at 7 p.m. on Thursday, June 11.



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Voters from White Haven and Dennison Township shared space and equipment in the Dennison Township building on Tuesday, as Luzerne County consolidated districts in the wake of Covid-19. JH: Ruth Isenberg

Death Roll

PETER W. HERBENER JR.

Peter W. Herbener Jr., 93, a lifelong resident of White Haven, residing in Freeland, passed away Thursday, May 28, 2020, at Post Acute Medical, Wilkes-Barre. He was the husband of the late Dorothy M. (nee: Ackers). In recent years, he resided with his companion, Barbara Talarovich.

Born in Pond Creek, he was the son of the late Peter and Rose (Petrick) Herbener Sr. From age 3, his step-mother was the late Bessie (Searfoss) Herbener.

Before retiring, he was a machinist for Foster Wheeler Corporation.

Peter was a life-long member of St. Paul's Lutheran Church, White Haven, having served on Congregation Council and a number of committees. Peter served a number of years as the President of the Laurel Cemetery Board of Directors. He was a 32nd

degree master mason Laurel Lodge #467 White Haven and Shriner.

Surviving are his sister, Rose Bariexca; daughter, Joyce and her husband Rev. Raymond C. Hittinger; son, Peter and his wife Janet Herbener; grandchildren Tammy and husband Thomas McDonald, Dr. Jeffrey and wife Jennifer Hittinger, Matthew Hittinger and partner Michael Sweet, Dr. Jessica and husband Dr. Benjamin Chicka, Kim and husband Shawn Gallucci, Chris Herbener Sr. and wife Laura, Erin Herbener; great-grandchildren Amalie and Ian Hittinger, Brianna and Christopher Herbener Jr.

Preceding him in death in addition to his parents and his wife was daughter Barbara Herbener and sister Dolores Isenberg.

Services and burial will be at the convenience of the family in Laurel Cemetery, White Haven. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made in memory of Peter to St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church, 414 Berwick Street, White Haven, PA. 18661.

PAUL CHESLOCK

Paul Cheslock, 92 years of age, formerly of Weatherly, passed away on Tuesday, May 26, 2020, at St. Luke's Pavilion in Hazleton.

Born Tuesday, June 21, 1927 in Treskow, he was the son of the late John and Anna (Tkach) Cheslock. Paul was also predeceased by his wife, Anna Mae (Snear) Cheslock; son, Robert Paul "Chip" Cheslock; granddaughter, Ann Hensel; great-grandson, Brandon Noel.

Surviving are son, John Cheslock and his wife Christy of Allentown; daughters, Janet Holman, wife of Dave of Weatherly, Theresa Balogach and her companion Michael

Richards of Weatherly, Cathy Hinkle, wife of Warren of Junedale, Rebecca Jordan of Smithfield, VA, and Melissa Cheslock of Beaver Meadows; 12 grandchildren; and 7 great-grandchildren.

A member of Salem U.C.C. of Weatherly, Paul was a heavy equipment operator for many years. Paul enjoyed hunting and fishing.

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

Interment is in Union Cemetery, Weatherly.

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

ELEANOR M. WALTERS

Eleanor M. Walters, 85, of Packer Twp., Weatherly, passed away Friday, May 29, 2020 at Pavilion at St. Luke Village, Hazleton, where she was a guest.

She was born in Hazleton, daughter of the late George F. and Theresa Lincoln Marankie and resided in Packer Twp. for most of her life.

Eleanor was a member of Our Lady of Lourdes Roman Catholic Church, Weatherly, where she was active in many of the church activities. She was loved by everyone and will be sadly missed.

Preceding her in death, in addition to her parents, was her beloved husband, Jack Walters, in 2016; two sons, Jack and John; and her brother, George Marankie.

Surviving are her children, Mark Walters and his wife, Lynn, Weatherly; William "Billy" Walters, Weatherly; Denise Lakata, Weatherly; Brian Walters and his wife, April, Weatherly; 10 grandchildren; six great-grandchildren; and several nieces and nephews.

Private funeral arrangements will be held at the convenience of the family with interment in the parish cemetery.

WATCH OUT FOR FAKE CHECK SCAMS

Fake checks are the darlings of many scam artists, from bogus lottery winnings, fake employment opportunities, to phony grant awards. Whatever the story, the scam artist sends you a check and then asks you to use it to buy gift cards or wire money to them. You deposit the check into your account, and when

it bounces, you are responsible for covering those funds. There is no legitimate reason why someone who gives you money would need you to send money back to them.

Be a fraud fighter! If you can spot a scam, you can stop a scam.

Visit the AARP Fraud Watch Network at www.aarp.org/fraudwatchnetwork or call the AARP Fraud Watch Network Helpline at 1-877-908-3360 to report a scam or get help if you've fallen victim.



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A Prayer to the Blessed Virgin

(Never known to fail)

O most beautiful flower of Mount Carmel, Fruitful Vine Splendor of Heaven, Blessed Mother of the Son of God. Immaculate Virgin, assist me in this my necessity. O Star of the Sea, help me and show me herein you are my mother.

O Holy Mary, Mother of God, Queen of Heaven and Earth, I humbly beseech you from the bottom of my heart to succor me in this necessity; there are none that can withstand your power.

O, show me herein you are my Mother. O Mary, conceived without sin, pray for us who have recourse to thee. (say 3 times) Sweet Mother, I place this cause in your hands. (say 3 times) Holy Spirit, you who solve all problems, who lights all roads so that I can attain my goal. You who give me the divine gift to forgive and forget all evil against me and that in all instances of my life you are with me. I want this short prayer to thank you for all things as you confirm once again that I never want to be separated from you in eternal glory. Thank you for your mercy toward me and mine.

The person must say this prayer for 3 consecutive days. After the 3rd day, the request will be granted, no matter how difficult it may be. This prayer must be published after the favor is granted.

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Seniors to receive immediate property tax/rent rebate payments

A bill that will speed up the distribution of property tax/rent rebate payments for seniors was signed into law last week by Gov. Tom Wolf, according to state Rep. Gerald Mullery.

“These are certainly unprecedented times and we need

to ensure we undertake every means necessary so our elderly and vulnerable residents can put food on their tables and are not left behind,” Mullery said. “I was pleased to be part of the unanimous vote to pass this bill and provide much-needed financial sup-

port to our seniors who need it most.”

Property tax and rent rebate payments will now be made immediately instead of making seniors wait until July 1. It also directs the departments of Revenue and Treasury to process 2019 rebate payments

for all homeowners and renters who received a 2018 rebate. For anyone who became eligible in the past year, those rebates will also be issued immediately upon receipt of their application, instead of waiting until July.

Mullery said he also wants

to ensure residents understand that the property tax/rent rebate payments are being sent out to those who have already filed for them. If residents have not yet applied, the sooner the application is filed the sooner the payment will be made.

Helping veterans and active duty military cope with social isolation

(StatePoint) As a result of the COVID-19 pandemic, millions of veterans and active duty military personnel are on lockdown, many suffering from traumatic brain injuries (TBIs), post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) or substance abuse. With the additional challenge of social isolation, finding ways to combat depression, anxiety and loneliness is critical.

That is why Help Heal Veterans (Heal Vets), a nonprofit founded during the Vietnam War, has gone into overdrive, shipping more than 90,000 free craft kits since the beginning of the pandemic and creating a newly designed kit to help veterans make the masks they need to stay healthy and safe.

Operating on the principle that not all medicine comes in a bottle, Heal Vets distributes kits in craft categories like masks, leatherwork, models, woodwork, jewelry, paint-by-numbers, needlecrafts, poster art, scrapbooks and more. Crafting can provide therapeutic and rehabilitative benefits, including improving fine motor skills, cognitive functioning, memory and dexterity, and can help alleviate feelings of anger and the severity of negative behaviors triggered by PTSD and TBIs.

With demands flooding in due to the COVID-19 pandemic, kits have been distributed to more than 90 Veterans Affairs (VA) medical centers around the country and a large number of military bases, state veteran homes

and other locations where the need is great.

“The coronavirus is overwhelming, but being alone in a pandemic crisis can be terrifying and deeply debilitating,” says Joe McClain, retired Navy captain and Help Heal

Veterans CEO. “Our goal is to give our veterans what they need to heal during this time of enforced isolation.”

In a recent survey of vets, 94 percent of those polled who use Heal Vets craft kits said the kits helped them have a

more positive outlook on life, and 98 percent said the kits took their mind off problems.

With many of the nation’s veterans labeled high-risk now in lockdown with little contact from others, (no visitors, no family allowed, no volunteers and limited staff interaction), it is particularly important to address suicide prevention, according to McClain.

“We’re working closely with the VA Suicide Program to start including VA-produced suicide prevention awareness and education material with our kits,” he says. “Our concern is that during this time of increased stress from isolation and financial uncertainty, some veterans may be at higher risk of taking their own life. We are hoping to raise awareness and improve access to craft therapy kits to help mitigate that risk.”

To learn more about Heal Vets and the organization’s COVID-19 efforts, as well as find out how you can help, visit HealVets.org.

Anxiety, depression and other mental health challenges can be exacerbated during this quarantine period. Luckily, there are tangible ways to support isolated and sick veterans in their most significant time of need.



Craft care specialist, Kathy Vanasse, prepares craft kits for veterans.

PHOTO SOURCE: Courtesy of Help Heal Veterans

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proud to support all those essential workers keeping us going through the Covid-19 pandemic



IN CARBON COUNTY, voting districts were consolidated but still separated. At left above, Lehigh Township voters cast their ballots Tuesday in the main meeting room of the township building, while Lausanne Township voters cast their votes in the garage area, shown at right. In Weatherly both districts voted in the Eurana Park pavilion, with east on the left side and west on the right, and separate spaces for filling out the paper ballots. The same ballot readers were used for combined districts in both Lehigh Township and Weatherly.

JH: Ruth Isenberg

Archives...

Continued from page 2

The Crestwood School District is projecting an increase of 5 mills in the property tax for the 1990-91 school year.

The recent blood drive at the White Haven Center went over its target, collecting 65 pints on a goal of 50.

Lisa Adams of Packer Township, a sophomore at Weatherly Area High School, attended the annual Hugh O'Brian Youth Leadership Seminar, held at Millersville University May 17 to 20.

It's Paint Savings Season at Ira Berger & Sons at their stores in Freeland and Hazleton. Save on Glidden Interior/ Exterior Spred Floor for \$19.99 a gallon.

New fencing at Lehigh Park, installed by Webster & Webster employees who donated their work, looks fantastic.

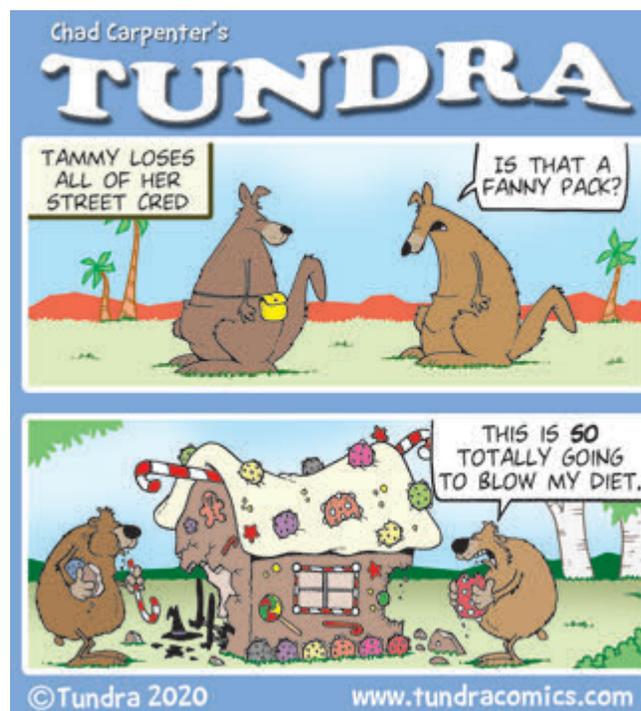
The Zellner's softball team of the Weatherly Area Girls Softball league had a five game win streak stopped by a strong offensive performance by the Wagner's team – 21 to 8.

Local grads from Kutztown U

Nearly 1,300 Kutztown University students have received their diplomas following the conclusion of the 2020 spring semester.

Nearly 1,100 students slated receive their bachelor's degrees, while 177 students received their graduate degrees, including 11 doctorate degrees.

Local graduates include Derek Coombs of Weatherly, Devin Berger of White Haven, Morgan Mengle of Weatherly, and Chase Steven Weichman of Weatherly.



Mullery votes to end Governor's COVID-19 emergency disaster declaration

Making a tough but necessary decision, state Rep. Gerald Mullery on May 28 broke with his Democratic colleagues and voted yes on a resolution to terminate the COVID-19 emergency disaster declaration by Gov. Tom Wolf.

"I know these are unprecedented times and that COVID-19 has impacted

every single Pennsylvanian, young and old," Mullery said. "Right now, there are nearly 2 million residents filing for unemployment causing massive backlogs of the system and thousands of business owners forced to keep their doors closed despite being able to follow the CDC guidelines for safe operations. How are

these people supposed to put food on their tables and pay their bills? My vote today is in solidarity and support of our hardworking and proud Pennsylvanians."

Mullery added the vote was the latest of more than 20 bills and resolutions he voted yes on over the past several weeks to reopen many industries

and businesses, get Pennsylvanians back to work while staying safe and provide more clear state government transparency.

"It is way past time for the governor to stop handling this crisis single-handedly and start working together with the legislature to come up

with a safe and comprehensive plan that benefits all of us and allows us to put these Pennsylvanians who have sacrificed so much back to work," Mullery added.

The resolution was adopted in the House by a vote of 117 to 85 with 7 Democrats joining Mullery.

Local residents among University of Scranton Undergraduate Class of 2020

Local residents were among the more than 875 candidates whose bachelor's degrees were conferred at The University of Scranton's virtual undergraduate celebration ceremony on May 31. Degrees were conferred to graduates in a group who had completed their academic degree requirements in August and Decem-

ber of 2019, as well as January and May of 2020. A formal commencement ceremony, at which graduates will be individually recognized, will take place on Oct. 25 at the Mohegan Sun Arena at Casey Plaza, Wilkes-Barre.

Jacquelyn M. Gillott of Weatherly earned a Bachelor of Science degree in exercise

science.

Ashley L. Martincek of White Haven earned a Bachelor of Science degree in exercise science.

Members of the University's undergraduate class of 2020 represent 14 states including California, Connecticut, Florida, Massachusetts, New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania and Virginia. Undergraduate majors with the most graduates are nursing, exercise science, biology, accounting, occupational therapy and marketing.

Rev. Scott R. Pilarz, S.J., president of the University, addressed the graduates at the virtual ceremony, and conferred degrees on candidates presented by Brian P. Conniff, Ph.D., dean of the College of Arts and Sciences; Sam Beldona, Ph.D., dean of the Kania School of Management; and Debra A. Pellegrino, Ed.D., dean of the Panuska College of Professional Studies.

Members of the class of 2020 speaking at the ceremony were Colleen C. Rohr, Norristown, a marketing, operations management and philosophy triple major and member of the University's Business Leadership Honors Program and its Special Jesuit Liberal Arts Honors Program; Hailey Marie Kindt, Easton, a neuroscience and philosophy double major and member of the University's undergraduate Honors Program and its Special Jesuit Liberal Arts Honors Program; and Fahad Ashraf, Clarks Summit, a biology and philosophy double major and member of the University's Special Jesuit Liberal Arts Honors Program.

Also speaking at the ceremony were Lauren Rivera, J.D., assistant vice president for student life and dean of students; Rev. Herbert B. Keller, S.J., vice president for mission and ministry; and Jeff Gingerich, Ph.D., provost and senior vice president for academic affairs. Congratulatory remarks to the class of 2020 were also given by Scranton Mayor Paige Cagnetti; U.S. Senators Bob Casey and Pat Toomey; and former cast members of NBC's *The Office* Leslie David Baker (Stanley), Kate Flannery (Meredith) and Oscar Nunez (Oscar).

An archived recording of the ceremony can be seen here (www.scranton.edu/commencement)

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ESU confers 1,101 degrees

A total of 1,101 students received degrees from East Stroudsburg University of Pennsylvania on May 9. Due

to the Covid-19 pandemic, traditional ceremonies could not take place, but all degrees will be conferred upon completion of coursework.

A total of 905 bachelor's degrees, 185 master's degrees and 11 doctoral degrees were awarded.

From Weatherly, graduates were Andrew Solonoski IV, and Michele Connors.

Alyssa Grimes of White Haven also graduated.

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Carbon County Fire and EMS companies to receive special COVID-19 grants

Recognizing the additional challenges facing the Pennsylvania fire and emergency medical services resulting from the COVID-19 pandemic, the state House of Representatives has approved \$50 million in additional grant funding for the organizations, according to Rep. Doyle Heffley.

Senate Bill 1122 creates the COVID-19 Crisis Fire and Emergency Medical Services

Grant Program with funding coming from the federal Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security (CARES) Act.

“The fundraising efforts of our local fire and ambulance companies have become even more challenging during the current health crisis,” Heffley said. “This special grant program will help these dedicated volunteers stay in operation at a time when their service to our communities is so criti-

cal.”

Under the bill, the funds would be distributed as follows: \$44 million for grants to eligible fire companies and \$6 million for grants to eligible EMS companies.

The grants would be administered by the Pennsylva-

nia Emergency Management Agency (PEMA) in a manner similar to how funds were provided through the Fire Company Grant Program and Emergency Medical Services Grant Program, respectively. Eligible companies that did not apply for or receive a fire

and EMS grant in fiscal year 2019-20 would be required to submit an application for this funding.

After passing by unanimous votes in both the House and Senate, the bill was sent to the governor's desk for his signature.

Elijah Derr is May Senior of the Month at WAHS

Elijah Derr, son of Connie Derr, Weatherly, and the late Paul Derr, has been named Senior of the Month for May at Weatherly Area High School.

Elijah serves as Treasurer of the Class of 2020, and Treasurer of the Weatherly Area High School chapter of the National Honor Society. He is a member of the boys' soccer and basketball teams, and participates in Student Forum and TATU.

In the community, Elijah spent two years running a Summer Youth Soccer Camp, and is a Vacation Bible School Helper. Elijah is employed by Whitewater Challengers in White Haven.

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May is Delrose Awards, in Lansford.

Copies of *The Journal-Herald* are for sale at: The White Haven Market, Fuel-One store, White Haven Exxon and Journal-Herald office in White Haven; Weatherly Area Community Pharmacy and TJ's Quick Stop in Weatherly; Weasel's in Dennison; and Wawa in Kidder.



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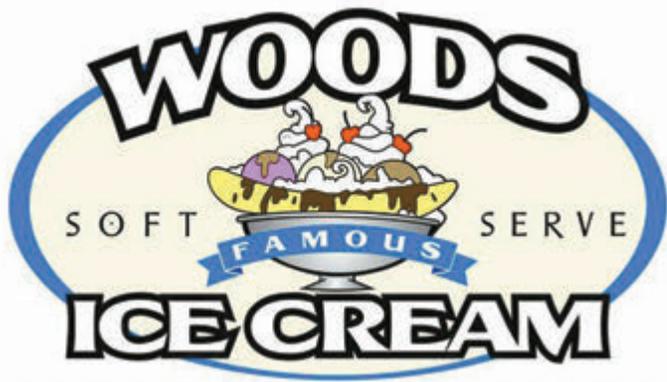
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Wildlands Conservancy to hold virtual programs

Join us on Thursday, June 4, from 6:30 to 7:15 p.m. for our live, virtual Bike Maintenance and Safety Workshop. Want to learn the basics of bike safety, etiquette, and maintenance on and off the trail? Well then join us for a virtual Bike Maintenance and Safety Workshop! Designed for a beginner, the workshop

will cover basic tools a rider should carry and how to use them. Also included will be lessons on how to change a tire on the trail, how to tighten brakes, how to clean and lubricate your bike chain, and more.

Join us on Saturday, June 6, from 6:30 to 7:15 p.m. for

our live, virtual Art in Nature program. Join a Wildlands Conservancy Environmental Educator for a live owl presentation and drawing session. Don't forget your art supplies, you will have the opportunity to follow along with whatever medium you choose and share your own owl version!

Join us on Tuesday, June 9, from 6:30 to 7:15 p.m. for our live, virtual Party at the Pond. Let's have a (virtual) party at the pond! Meet some of our Wildlands Conservancy education animals and join an environmental educator on a pond exploration searching for frogs and macro invertebrates.

All programs are \$10 per family and only one family member needs to register. Participants will be sent Zoom video information once registered. To register for any of these programs, visit www.wildlandspa.org.

MMI inducts 27 students into National Junior Honor Society

MMI Preparatory School inducted 27 eighth grade students into the National Junior Honor Society for the 2019-2020 school year.

Students inducted are: Andrew Burns, son of Jill Burns

of White Haven; Nathaniel Neidlinger, son of Amanda Neidlinger of Weatherly; Dominic Raifsnider, son of Tricia Suveg of Lake Harmony; Abigail Sparich, daughter of Joseph and Michele Sparich

of Weatherly; Blake Warren, son of Atty. Rebecca Warren of Beaver Meadows and Richard Warren of Danville; and Leo Zvonik, son of Sergey and Lydiya Zvonik of Albrightsville.

To gain membership, a student must demonstrate scholarship, service, leadership, character, and citizenship for the entirety of their seventh-grade year and the first semester of their eighth-grade year.

Amanda Shonk, National Junior Honor Society advisor, said, "As the advisor to our school's chapter, I am very excited to personally welcome

these 27 new additions to the National Junior Honor Society for the 2019-2020 school year. Students entering the NJHS at the middle school level are beginning the early stages of greater independence and responsibility, seek to excel in academics, show an interest in leadership and service, and have a thirst for challenge and accomplishment."

SCAM ALERT: Pet Scams

A growing number of people are fighting loneliness with a new pet, but choosing a pet – especially online – can be tricky and sometimes dangerous. A national survey found that more than 80% of sponsored search sites offering pets for sale were fraudulent in 2017. The websites look legit and the "sellers" will ask you typical adoption questions, but the adorable

photos you are falling in love with are stolen from legitimate sites. Once you start paying these scammers, the charges start to pile up for things like last minute medical needs or travel expenses, and the pet you've fallen in love with never shows up.

Thoroughly vet any online offering from breeders, shelters or rescue organizations. Better yet, consider adopting

locally.

Be a fraud fighter! If you can spot a scam, you can stop a scam.

Visit the AARP Fraud Watch Network at www.aarp.org/fraudwatchnetwork or call the AARP Fraud Watch Network Helpline at 1-877-908-3360 to report a scam or get help if you've fallen victim.

Civil War roundtable monthly meetings cancelled

Due to the pandemic and social distancing requirements, The Wyoming Valley Civil War Roundtable is canceling the remainder of its meetings scheduled for 2020.

We look forward to resuming our monthly meetings in March, 2021. Thank you for your continued support of the Civil War Roundtable.

Seth's Sightings

by Seth Isenberg

Friends of ours live in Philadelphia, west of downtown beyond the colleges. Just before I sat to write this, we received a call from them. They had just come back from a walk from their home, to see what happened to businesses on a nearby main street after two days of rioting. The call expressed shock, and sadness over the destruction of their beautiful city.

Over the weekend, I had tuned into KYW News Radio 1060 to hear of the protest on Saturday while also checking in on the launch of the Falcon rocket with its payload of a Dragon capsule with two astronauts aboard. It was to be a newsy day. As the af-

ternoon went on, I heard of unrest in Philly, then rioting. I was appalled – a just protest had been hijacked by thugs. As things went from bad to worse, I became heartbroken as the city I had come to love was getting destroyed a bit at a time.

Yes, we are fortunate to live here the White Haven and Weatherly area. During the time Philly dealt with riots, I saw dozens of families on bikes in White Haven, lines at our ice cream stands, the Baccalaureate celebrating the Weatherly Area High School senior class, folks at home doing yard work... There were birds with yellow, red, blue and brown feathers – small

and large birds, plus deer, turkey, fox and groundhogs on the roadsides along our travels. This is such a beautiful place here, one we need to keep alert to protect.

Ruth and I are not doing all that much different from week to week right now. Restaurants and museums are shut. Events are getting cancelled. Attractions are delayed in their opening. Our routine is work, work, work, maybe some yard work, a visit to my uncle Slater, and a ride out of town, often paired with a food shopping excursion.

This week's variation was that we tried to drive to Danville to find a place to dine outdoors, as that county, Montour, has entered into the green phase of the Covid-19 rules. We went on Sunday, and found most restaurants closed. The one we found open had chosen to end their evening at 7 – we had turned up at 7:20. They had one table going. We'll try someplace closer to home this coming weekend. Instead, we found takeout, and took the food to a quiet boat launch beside the Susquehanna River. There, we watched the activity on the river, and the sunset.

At one point, a Subaru with two big Labradors – one beside and the other behind the driver – came by. They didn't stay as there were too many fishermen around. We'd guessed the driver came to take the pair for a river swim, so went down to the next boat launch a few minutes south.

It was nice to see the Weatherly Class of 2020 at the Baccalaureate in Eurana Park parking lot. The ceremony was a trial run for the big Weatherly Area graduation event this Friday in the parking lot of the W. A. Middle School.

Restaurants with patios or decks will be able to serve diners starting this weekend. In celebration, we're looking to dine outside during one of the sunny days.

We're still hoping for events to get held later in June in some fashion, and by July, more normally. So far, the only event still holding out in June that's left on our schedule is the Celtic Fling in Mt. Hope. The festival team is working on a plan to hold the event under the new rules.

Stay safe, everyone, and keep our city friends in your prayers.

Carbon County property transfers through May 17

Banks Township

Sharon F. Dever to Erin Kathleen Dever Porambo, 17 N. Chestnut St., Tresckow, property at 17 N. Chestnut St., \$1.

Kidder Township

Wayne I. Pesaresi to William E. Malone Jr., Wayne, property at 502 Moseywood Road, Lake Harmony, \$215,000.

Roselie Rueda to Roger Gravatt, Allentown, New Jersey, property at 2 Sasafrass Road, Lake Harmony, \$270,000.

Catherine M. Sikorski to Daniel Hahn, Landenberg, Lot 7, Section G-1, Split Rock, \$53,000.

Robyn Esposito to Yin Yin, Forest Hills, New York, property at 511 Estates Drive, Lake Harmony, \$188,000.

Lehigh Township

Cynthia D. Gocek to Joseph C. Ries, Philadelphia, property at 542 Buck Mountain Road, \$275,000.

Packer Township

Gerard E. Grega Sr. to Gerard E. Grega Sr., 2432 Wetzel Run Road, Weatherly, property on Wetzel Run Road, \$1.

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CHS class of '70 meeting cancelled

The Crestwood High School Class of 1970 meeting scheduled for this Sunday, June 7, has been cancelled. It was slated to be held at the pavilion in the Wright Township Park, but that facility is closed because of Covid-19.

The meeting to plan the upcoming 50th class reunion will be rescheduled for July. Tentative date is July 19. Details of location and time will be announced closer to the date.

We are postponing the rest of our 25th Anniversary celebration until the Corona Virus situation has settled. In the meantime...

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Journal-Herald Sports

It's early June: Should high school football teams suit up for practice?

by Roger Barbee

In my neck of the woods, it's going to happen. Should it? Before I answer that question, let me set the context. In doing so, you won't read the word, 'football,' until much later in this article.

The past months have taken their toll on everybody. Illness, death, lost jobs, food shortages, and much more have put pressure on households and families in ways that we haven't seen since The Great Depression. Circumstances have forced people and families to function in novel ways.

And while the pandemic

has affected all families, it has put extra pressure on families with school-age children. Kids have lost their schooldays. That's critical because schools provide essential functions. Yes, academics is one, but schools contribute in many other ways, including offering children social and non-academic activities and development opportunities.

Not having those functions means students suffer a sense of loss. Think of athletes who had championship quests cut short, and art students who no longer have access to school supplies, stages, mentors, and exhibits. All the while, chil-

dren have had to adapt to a new order by doing without their peers and favorite teachers. And consider the pressure on families of middle and high school students, who are still out of school and—as of this writing—are unsure what the fall will bring.

With the virus still present, parents have had to structure days for their children. Instead of going to work and entrusting their child to a school, parents have had to become 'the school.' (I've italicized those words because they are significant.) What's more, families have been isolated—and will continue to experience gradations of isolation—

until a virus vaccine is widely available.

So what about football practice? Starting next Monday, it will happen at two schools near where I live. What makes this decision particularly hard to digest is that the pandemic numbers in my area. COVID-19 hospitalizations experienced a two-week spike. (Italics, again.)

The schools say they will take safety procedures, such as continually cleaning equipment. No locker rooms will be used, either, which means players will have to prepare for practices and take showers at home. A limited number of players will be allowed on a field at a time. Players will be required to wear gloves. But for me, those answers raise more questions. For instance, how will personal hygiene be safeguarded when a player rides home with sweaty gear?

But what concerns me most is what I'll write about now: there's a blatant disregard for family welfare and the pressure it puts on families with children who have football

aspirations. How? First, the opening of the practice season wasn't extended with an invitation. It was an ultimatum. Any student who wants a spot on the team knows that presence and performance matter. Getting a shot at playing requires showing up and demonstrating skills. Second, children are "chomping at the bit" to return to some degree of what they knew before. Third, football is an extremely high-profile, public activity that carries rewards, including community-wide adulation.

With all that stacked against parents, what any parent believes or prefers probably won't matter—especially if a son pleads to play.

These schools made self-serving decisions by dangling something of great value before prospective players. But just like anything that dangles, strings are attached. These strings carry risk.

Roger Barbee, a former high school administrator and coach, writes for The Sports Column.

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ACROSS

1. Sacred song
6. Chowd down
9. Acoustic repetition
13. Capital of Vietnam
14. 4 qts.
15. Teamsters' group
16. Affair, in Paris
17. Bit of binary code
18. Part of TNT
19. *Sleeping under the stars
21. *Horticulturist's hangout
23. Articulate
24. Combustible pile
25. Joe Louis move
28. Epiphany guests
30. Forgo
35. WWII side
37. *Bonfire fodder
39. Royal topper
40. Tiny river
41. Pond buildup
43. Miners' passage
44. Best not mentioned
46. *What seekers do
47. Fairytale beginning
48. Same as "slow down"
50. Upper hand
52. Toni Morrison's "___ Baby"
53. Threads
55. Pie _____ mode
57. *a.k.a. shuttlecock

60. *Flying saucer
64. 2 halves of a diameter
65. Pilot's deadline
67. *Fire starter
68. Triangular road sign
69. ___ Luis Obispo
70. "Die Lorelei" poet
71. Other than what is
72. One laid
73. Poker stakes

DOWN

1. First-rate, slangily
2. Ditto
3. Soon, to a bard
4. They are usually drunken
5. Biblical prophetess
6. Full of excitement
7. *Sun kiss
8. Funereal lament
9. "National Velvet" author ___ Bagnold
10. Give a ticket
11. Sound warning
12. Lennon's wife
15. State of agitation
20. African antelope
22. "Who ___ we kidding?"
24. a.k.a toes
25. *Banned lawn darts
26. Type of rotation
27. "The Hobbit" hobbit

29. *Played with a driver
31. Bye in Palermo
32. Lacked, for short
33. The oldest Goldberg sibling
34. *Skier's turf
36. Snail-like
38. *Volleyball turf
42. Painter Degas
45. Beat the Joneses
49. Interesting person, acronym

51. Eli Manning's first name
54. Ganders' companions
56. *Famous ski town
57. Get-out-of-jail money
58. ___ of March
59. Make someone angry

60. Jack London's "White ___"
61. *Fisherman's supply
62. Marine eagle
63. Augments
64. Pastrami partner
66. **"You're it!" game

CROSSWORD

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Sports Briefs

Van Horn Memorial golf tourney set

The 32nd Annual Brian Van Horn Memorial Golf Tournament and Outing will be held, rain or shine, on Sunday, August 16 at White Birch Golf Course, Barnesville. A 10 a.m. shotgun start is planned for the four-person, best-ball scramble. The entry fee is \$80 per golfer payable to Brian Van Horn Memorial Fund. Tee and green sponsorships are available at \$50, and corporate sponsorship is available for \$250. All proceeds benefit the Brian Van Horn Memorial Scholarship Fund through an IRC 501 (c)(3). Proof of donation available upon request.

For more information or to register or seek sponsorship, please contact Patrick Monaghan, 932 North St., Weatherly, PA 18255, 570-427-4751; or Rich Stefanick, 1500 Evergreen Ave., Apt. 208, Weatherly, PA 18255, 570-427-4770.

Award started in honor of Donlin

The inaugural Colleen Donlin Memorial Award will be presented to a high school senior varsity female athlete who participated in basketball and/or would have participated on a high school softball team this spring. Applicants also need to demonstrate community involvement, academic standing, and is a resident of the Freeland area. Only completed applications will be considered.

Colleen was a standout Freeland High School multi-sport athlete who was the Lady Whippets only 1,000-point scorer in basketball. She lost her battle with breast cancer last year. She was a fierce competitor and loyal friend. Her family and friends instituted the award, to be administered by the Freeland YMCA. Donations can be made to the Colleen Donlin Memorial Award through the Freeland YMCA P.O. Box 6, Freeland, PA 18224.

The applications are available by contacting Ben Beuhring at beuhringb@hasdk12.org, or on the Hazleton Area High School website under "guidance."

Pocono NASCAR races without fans

Following the guidance on sporting events in Pennsylvania issued by Governor Tom Wolf, Pocono Raceway officials announced last week that the 2020 NASCAR events scheduled at Pocono will be held without fans in attendance. The decision was made in coordination with NASCAR and state officials.

The race weekend, which was to feature two NASCAR Cup races for the first time along with additional support races, was originally scheduled for June 27-28. While it still may be that weekend, the exact dates of Pocono's races are now being reviewed,

and will be finalized at a later date. They will still be run, but without fans.

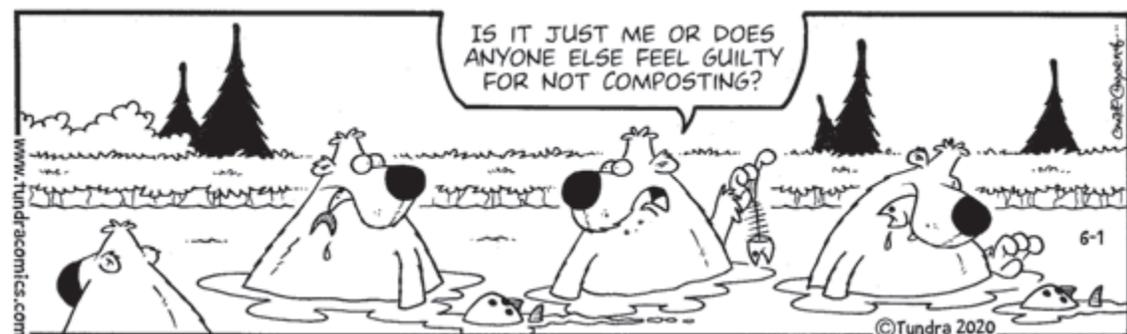
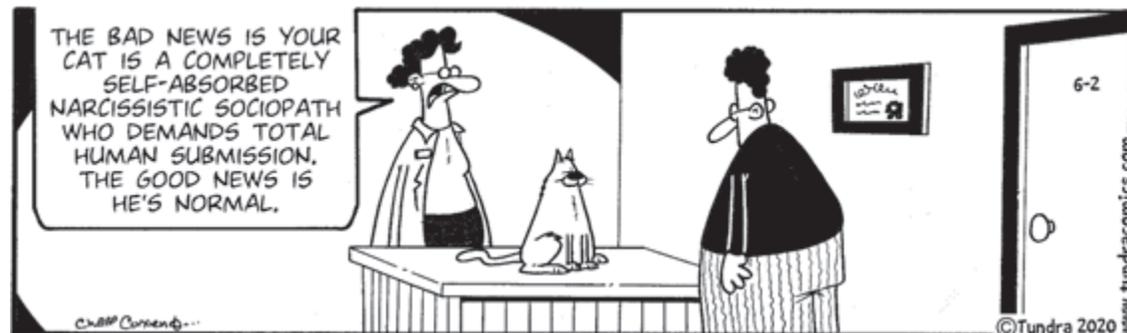
As a result, ticket account holders will have the option to either receive a refund, or account credit, for the face value of their 2020 tickets. No ticket account holders will lose their renewal rights for Pocono Raceway's 2021 NASCAR events.

Ticketholders can request a refund amount equal to the face value of their tickets, or take a credit good for any future event held at Pocono. go to the poconoraceway.com and select the 2020 REFUND/ACCOUNT CREDIT FORM link to make their

choice. A refund or account credit will post within three business days. Email questions to questions@poconoraceway.com, with a response within three business days.

Five races have been held since May 17 without fans since NASCAR returned from a two-month hiatus due to the coronavirus pandemic. Races were held at Darlington, Charlotte and Bristol.

Kevin Harvick leads the series point standings heading into Sunday's race at Atlanta, followed by Joey Logano and Chase Elliott. Brad Keselowski, winner of two of the last three races, is in fourth place.



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Even without racing, Formula 1 is making big news

by Mark Gero

Three F1 racing teams -Williams, McLaren, and Renault-made major announcements last week that will affect the sport. They were very different announcements, indeed, but they shared a common genesis—the economic downturn caused by COVID-19.

The news at Williams is stark. With company revenue sliding to \$117 million last year, the team decided to terminate its title sponsorship with Rokit immediately. It also put financial options on the table, including raising new capital, divesting a minority or majority stake in Williams Grand Prix Holdings, and selling the company altogether.

In a statement, WGPB said: “Whilst no decisions have been made regarding the optimal outcome, to facilitate discussions with interested parties, the company announces the commencement

of a ‘formal sale process.’ At the time of this announcement, (we are) in preliminary discussions with a small number of parties regarding a potential investment in the company.”

At McLaren, 1,200 jobs will be cut because of pandemic-related impacts on its business. Three divisions will be affected: automotive, applied technology, and McLaren Racing. Paul Walsh, head of the McLaren Group, said that the cuts will put the company in more of a control of its budget in the future, and will lead to the company becoming more competitive.

Walsh didn’t sugarcoat why he decided to make his most recent move: “We have already undertaken dramatic cost-saving measures across all areas of the business. But we have no other choice but to reduce the size of our workforce.”

The news was better at Renault, but not without pain. Interim CEO Clotilde Del-

bos presented a plan that cut 15,000 jobs worldwide (4,500 in France), and the need to secure \$2.2 billion in cost savings over the next three years. But those plans don’t include taking Renault off the F1 grid. “We confirm that we intend to stay in Formula 1,” said Delbos in a conference call. A key in being able to make that decision, she said, was the new financial cap imposed on Formula 1 teams beginning in 2021. “We have less invested than some of our competitors who are spending a lot of money, so F1, we are here, and we shall stay in Formula 1,” she said.

One advantage for Renault is that—just like Mercedes and Ferrari—it runs on engines that it manufactures. Teams like McLaren and Williams, on the other hand, need engines from other companies.

How the new budget caps will work for those teams is yet to be understood.

Mark Gero, a veteran motorsports reporter, writes for *The Sports Column*.

MMI team places third in PA Foundation for Free Enterprise

A team of five MMI Preparatory School eighth grade students placed third in the Foundation for Free Enterprise’s statewide Stock Market Game.

Robert Orbin, Nathaniel Neidlinger, Ethan Lloyd, Leo Zvonik, and Corrigan Nolasco finished third in Pennsylvania and first in the east region with a relative return of 23.11 percent above the performance of the S&P 500 index, which measures the stock performance of 500 large companies listed on stock exchanges in the United States.

All five eighth graders are students in MMI Social Sciences instructor Michael Scarlato’s Government class. Scarlato said, “I am proud of Robert, Nathaniel, Ethan, Leo, and Corrigan. It is extremely difficult to be in the top three of this game, especially dealing with the market in the middle of the coronavirus pandemic.”

Robert Orbin is the son of Robert and Lynn Orbin of Mountaintop, Nathaniel Neidlinger is the son of Amanda Neidlinger of Weatherly, Ethan Lloyd is the son of Wendy and Michael Storaska of Drums and Robert Lloyd of Freeland, Leo Zvonik is the son of Sergey and Lydiya Zvonik of Albrightsville, and Corrigan Nolasco is the son of Beth and William Gabel of Freeland.

The Foundation for Free Enterprise partners with the Securities Industry and Fi-

ancial Markets Association (SIFMA) Foundation, whose efforts include supporting fourth through 12th grade teachers across the country with best-in-class educational programs that make student learning real-world and fun, to conduct the Stock Market Game across Pennsylvania.

The Stock Market Game is a program that allows students to experience the thrill of investing, without all the risk of losing real money. The teams get \$100,000 of virtual cash that they can use to invest in stocks and bonds. The students are in control of their fortune and compete with other teams from their region and across the state. Through the Stock Market Game, students learn what it means to work as a team, gain a fundamental understanding of investing, and discover how to make their money work for them.

MMI’s team competed in the East region’s middle school division against students in grades 6-8 and participated in the year-long version of the Stock Market Game, which was held from September 16, 2019 to April 10, 2020. Each team competed in four different game sessions, three that were competitive and one that was labeled an enrichment session. The year-long session uses percentage growth above or below the value of the S&P 500 as the basis for determining winners.

THIS WEEK’S ANSWERS

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

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

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Since 1972

Crestwood grad to head King's College wrestling program

Former Crestwood High School wrestling standout Josh Roosa is returning home. On Friday, King's College Associate Vice President and Executive Director of Intercollegiate Athletics and Recreation Cheryl Ish announced the hiring of Roosa as the new head coach of the school's wrestling program. Roosa becomes the College's first full-time head coach, and is just the third coach over the storied 51 years of King's Wrestling.

"It's with great excitement that we welcome Josh Roosa to King's and back to NEPA," said Ish. "Josh's passion for the sport, this area and for building our program was evident during the search process. The search committee was impressed with his vision for the growth of the program and his understanding of the success and traditions enjoyed under legendary coach Ned McGinley. I am confident that Josh will take advantage of his familiarity with the high caliber Pennsylvania high school wrestling and quickly begin the process of recruiting quality student-athletes to King's."

"Josh's experiences wrestling and coaching at a high level will be an asset to developing a strong team culture and promoting individual success," added Ish. "Equally important, Josh's core values as a coach match perfectly with providing our student-athletes with a valuable education and great team environment."

"I am beyond thrilled to have the opportunity to lead a program with such a rich tradition and history," Roosa said. "Being an NEPA native and Crestwood graduate, I am very much aware of that tradition and I am looking forward to building on all that Ned

McGinley and others have worked hard to build. I would like to thank Cheryl Ish and the entire search committee for granting me this wonderful opportunity."

"Through the interview process, it became clear that King's College was an institution I wanted to be a part of," he continued. "The passion, excitement and commitment everyone had for the King's College community was impressive. I have been very familiar with the program from a young age. I attended dual meets and looked up to wrestlers like Jim Morgan, Mitch Marks, Jason Reilly, and many others. To have an opportunity to take over a program that I looked up to as a kid is a dream come true."

Coming Home

Roosa returns to Northeast Pennsylvania after serving as an assistant coach and co-head assistant coach at Division I Appalachian State University in Boone, NC. While at Appalachian State, Roosa was responsible for all on-campus recruiting, along with assisting with team and individual workouts, producing social media content, and assisting in fundraising.

After two years as an assistant coach in Boone, Roosa was elevated to a role of co-head assistant coach before the 2017-18 season. In addition to the SoCon titles and NCAA qualifiers, he helped App State earn multiple top-25 national rankings, highlighted by a climb to No. 16 during the 2016-17 season.

Following the fourth straight SoCon title in 2018-19, the 2019-20 team had a school-record six NCAA Championships qualifiers while posting a 9-3 dual meet

record. A young team with new starters at six positions led Division I wrestling with four dual meet shutouts, was one of only three Division I teams with at least four conference champions and was one of only six Division I teams that had all 10 starters finish the season with a winning record.

Off the mat, App State posted a school-record GPA of 3.45 in the spring of 2020, pushing the cumulative GPA to a program-best 3.11, and its number of community service hours recorded by the Helper Helper platform in 2019-20 ranked No. 4 among all Division I wrestling programs. A year earlier, the Mountaineers led all Division I wrestling programs in community service hours.

"Although I hate to lose Josh I am extremely excited for him and his family," stated Appalachian State head wrestling coach JohnMark Bentley. "He has done a phenomenal job here supporting our program and team culture, and hope these experiences will help him now lead King's College. I consider Josh not only a great coach but a personal friend and wish him tremendous luck as he starts this new journey."

Roosa Is Ready

Roosa is eager to get started. "I intend to focus on building a roster full of committed student athletes who want to excel academically, athletically and socially," said Roosa. "I am excited to get in the room and implement a system I know works at the highest level and I am confident will make a huge difference in our performance on the mat. I am also looking forward to connecting with the alumni and

supporters of King's College wrestling and getting them all involved with the program."

Prior to his time at App State, Roosa was an assistant coach at Division I University of Buffalo for one season. Roosa helped lead effective conditioning and technique practices, and assisted with recruiting while serving as the academic liaison to Athletic Academic Services.

His coaching career came after a stellar career on the mat at Division I Bloomsburg University, where he was a five-year scholarship wrestler. An NCAA qualifier at 149 pounds and University Nationals All-American, he was a team captain in 2012-13 when the Huskie squad finished ranked 14th in the country. Roosa graduated from Bloomsburg with a B.A. in communication studies.

Before college, Roosa

chalked up a 143-18 scholastic record on the mats at Crestwood, where he was a four-time District 2 champion, and had a record of 34-0 as a senior before breaking his hand and missing the state championships. He was sixth at the PIAA Class 3A Championships in 2007, and was the 2006 and 2007 National High School Coaches Association national champion at 145.

Roosa will come to Wilkes-Barre with his wife Rachael, and their one son, Joseph.

"I will bring tremendous energy and work ethic every day," Roosa promised. "It has always been my goal to help all of my student-athletes reach their full potential on and off the mat. It may take some time but I plan to build King's College wrestling into one of the premier programs in the country."

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