



THE JOURNAL-HERALD

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CONTINUING: *THE WHITE HAVEN JOURNAL*
ESTABLISHED 1879–141ST YEAR, NO. 29

CONTINUING: *THE WEATHERLY HERALD*
ESTABLISHED 1880–141ST YEAR, NO. 3

Crestwood Class of 2020 celebrates graduation



CRESTWOOD HIGH SCHOOL graduated 229 students in a mobile-centric ceremony on Friday, June 12. Students and families paraded by vehicle from the high school to St. Jude's and back, then down to the stadium to receive their diplomas, broadcast to guests in the parking lot. Cheerleaders provided a rousing send-off. More next week in our Graduate Salute.

JH: Seth & Ruth Isenberg



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From the Archives

**From
The Weatherly Herald,
June 18 1970****James Faust and
Cletus Milan, Publishers**

Photos on the front page showed the demolition of the old Hudsonale Pumping Station, “idle since the late 1940s.” The Hazleton City Authority decided to destroy the building rather than pay taxes on it (due to a new PA law). In the other photos, Myrtle Hayes won best of show with her arrangement of clematis at the Weatherly Flower Club’s Little Flower Show last week.

Carbon County Day, as part of the annual Laurel Blossom Festival in the Poconos, drew over 250 people to a luncheon for the festival princesses and their escorts to Flagstaff Park. Special guest and speaker was Carl Gruber, Austrian ambassador to the United States.

Weatherly Cub Scout Pack 7 will be taking a trip to Philadelphia this weekend. The trip features a visit to the Philadelphia Zoo, and after lunch, a two-hour boat trip.

**From the Sidelines,
by Don Garber**

The first few attendances at Little League games have been overwhelmingly good. This could be a good omen that some of the parents who normally don’t come to see their little guys in action are getting there this year. We hope this fine support will continue throughout the season.

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

The Weatherly Babe Ruth squad has a 4-2 record going into this week, eking out an 8-7 victory over Thomas Electric on Monday night.

Wagner Electric’s Little League team is setting the pace, going two for two so far this season.

**From
The Journal-Herald,
June 21, 1990
Clara and Jay Holder,
Publishers**

The front page photo this week shows the winners of the Justin McCarthy Primitive Art Contest, held at the Weatherly Elementary and Middle Schools.

A third of a page in this issue was devoted to a notice for White Haven Borough residents of an emergency evacuation plan for the Borough. Evacuation gathering points include the Pepperoni Brothers parking lot, the Laurel Street Playground, and Saint Patrick’s parking lot — where people must check in to be evacuated (the borough is divided into three sections for this). Emergencies would be announced by the fire siren — 30 seconds on, 30 seconds off, for five minutes; and then from church loudspeakers and mobile units. Emergency information would also be broadcast on 103 FM, 1300 AM and on WBRE TV 28.

After five years, the Reverend Joseph Wenrich of the White Haven United Method-

See ARCHIVES, page 6

Public Notice

PUBLIC NOTICE

The Planning Commission of Packer Township, Carbon County, Pennsylvania will hold a public meeting on Monday, June 29, 2020 at 7:00 PM at the Packer Township Building at 2234 Hudson Drive, Weatherly, PA. 18255 to review the following:

Complete re-write and update of the Packer Township Zoning Ordinance

Complete re-write and update of the Packer Township Subdivision and Land Development Ordinance.

All interested parties are invited to attend. If you cannot attend in person, have a disability or are concerned about attending a public meeting at this time, please contact the Township Office at (570) 427-8969 or through the Township Website at packertownship.com to request that the meeting be conducted through the use of a zoom application as well as being conducted live.

**Packer Township
Planning Commission**

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Editorial

Congratulations to 2020 grads— from start like this, you can do anything

by Seth & Ruth Isenberg

While 2020 may not have been the most perfect of school years, with its shortened session and lost sports and activities, it’s now official, with evidence being the diplomas with which seniors have been presented. Our high schools’ seniors are now high school graduates. Congratulations to you.

Graduation is a launching point. Young people who have attended local schools now get to choose what comes next — where to launch to. Careers or college, near enough to commute, or far enough away to need housing — decisions, important ones, need to be confirmed if college-bound, or made if careers are the next step.

The changes in everything that the Conavirus has wrought make choices even harder — delaying some decisions and changing the way this summer was supposed to be, from jobs to activities. Our graduates, who were born in the year of 9/11, will like all of us have a bumpy ride through the aftermath of Covid-19, but through this they will get, and they will be stronger for it.

Here’s to all of you who have reached your graduation milestones. Well done, and may your future be as bright as it will be challenging.

Public Notices

LEGAL NOTICE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Letters Testamentary have been granted to Robert Wegener, of Fleetwood, Pennsylvania in the Estate of ANNA MAE WEGENER, late of Conyngham Boro, Pennsylvania, who died on April 28, 2020. All persons indebted to said Estate are requested to make payment and those having claims or demands to present the same without delay to the Executor named or to:

Conrad A. Falvello, Esquire
THE FALVELLO LAW FIRM, P.C.
 641 State Route 93
 Sugarloaf, PA 18249

7/2

PUBLIC NOTICE

White Haven Brough Council has scheduled a Zoom meeting:
 Topic: White Haven Borough Council Meeting
 Time: June 22, 2020 06:30 PM Eastern Time (US and Canada)

Join Zoom Meeting
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89634381817>
 Meeting ID: 836 3438 1817

Dial by your location
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Linda Szoke
Borough Manager
Zoning and Code Officer
 312 Main Street
 White Haven PA 18661
 570-443-9129



Moving time almost here for Weatherly

by Seth Isenberg

It was decided at Weatherly Council's June 15 meeting not to hold either a July or an August council meeting to aid borough staff who will be boxing and moving items from the current borough building, in the old train station, to the new one, shown above. According to borough manager Harold Pudliner, the new building should be ready at the end of July. Council members will be called to approve the bills to be paid for July and August, but the formal meeting will be given a rest until September's, when it will be held in the new meeting room.

As one project wraps up, the borough will get started on the process to erect the police department's garage, starting with permits and paperwork. It's a hope to have the garage up before winter, so that police vehicles will not have

to be kept running all night when temperatures get toward freezing.

The garage project will also add parking around the new borough building. Also part of this project is a redesign of the entrance to the property to make it safer to get to the borough building, and the Legion's. The whole of the project will now exceed an acre, and so now needs an NPDES erosion control permit. The new entrance will need a Highway Occupancy Permit.

Making the Hudsondale Stream channel safer led to getting fencing quotes, as the open channel attracts local children. The channel will get fencing installed at a cost of \$5,364.

Four weeks of bills were approved, totaling \$154,966. Income was \$150,244, mainly from taxes coming in, plus \$50,000 from the electric account.

Police reported 308 incidents in May, including writing 63 traffic tickets, making 12 criminal charges, and writing 4 tickets for non-traffic issues. Police have 224

cases pending.

Discussion after the meeting was that the old Koehler's Crossing footbridge was due to be removed on Tuesday, and a portion of it left behind

for the Weatherly Museum.

Coming up this weekend is the borough's electronics and tire recycling, from 9 a.m. to noon on Saturday the 20th, at Eurana Park.



Death Roll

CHRISTOPHER JUDE WICKKISER

Christopher Jude Wickkiser, husband, father, son, brother, of Coaldale, who grew up in Weatherly, passed away suddenly on Friday, June 5, 2020, at St. Luke's Miners Memorial in Coaldale, at the age of 33.

Born on May 14, 1987 in Denville, New Jersey, he was the son of Paul Michael and Annette M. (Grega) Wickkiser of Weatherly. Chris is also survived by his beloved wife of 9 years, Samantha M. (Yurchak) Wickkiser; his children whom he adored, son, Jaxon J. Wickkiser, daughters, Nora R. Wickkiser and Olivia R. Wickkiser; brother, Ryan M. Wickkiser of Weatherly; sisters, Noelle M. Rossi wife of Jeffrey of Weatherly, Kristyna M. Keifer wife of George of

Drums. Many aunts, uncles and cousins also survive.

A 2005 graduate of Marian Catholic High School, Chris was a proud member of the Colts football team. He earned his associate's degree in Criminal Justice from Luzerne County Community College. Chris served valiantly in the United States Army combating the Global War on Terrorism in Afghanistan. He received numerous awards for meritorious service. Chris worked maintenance for Arytza Sanitation of Hazleton.

Chris was an avid outdoorsman who liked to hunt, fish, and golf. He was a member of the Nesquehoning V.F.W.

Funeral arrangements were entrusted to the Philip J. Jeffries Funeral Home & Cremation Services of Weatherly. A Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated June 12 from Our Lady of Lourdes R.C.C. in Weatherly. Interment was in Union Cemetery, with Military honors bestowed.

Memorials in Chris's name may be sent in care of his wife Samantha to 131 First Street, Coaldale, PA 18218. An educational fund will be established for Chris's children.

Online condolences or a fond memory may be expressed by visiting www.griffithsfuneralhomes.com.

DOROTHY P. MAZZA

Dorothy P. Mazza, 92, of Weatherly, passed away Tuesday, June 9, 2020 in Weatherwood Nursing Home. She was of the Lutheran faith.

Dorothy had resided in Coolbaugh Township previously for many years. She worked at a bookkeeper and secretary for Western Electric.

She is survived by Joe and Gerry Mazza of Tobyhanna. Cremation was private.

Windmill Hearing postponed again for Packer Township

by Seth Isenberg

After a long, long lag between hearings due to the Coronavirus, this Wednesday was to be the restart of Packer Township Zoning Hearing Board's sessions on the proposal to put a windmill farm atop Broad Mountain in near Nesquehoning. Then on Mon-

day, the hearing was postponed again, at the request of Broad Mountain Power – the applicant. The next hearing is now scheduled for Tuesday, July 28, to start at 6 p.m. The meeting will be held at the Packer Township municipal building on Route 93 in Hudsondale, and also can be seen on Zoom.

Letter to the Editor

To the Editor:

On Flag Day, June 14, we commemorate the adoption of the American Flag. For more than 200 years, Old Glory has served as a symbol of our nation's freedom and as a source of pride for our citizens. In patriotic parades and musical salutes, we support our local military and recognize the significance of the Stars and Stripes.

Flag Day is also a time to honor our nation's veterans who have willingly served to protect the flag and the ideals it represents.

With each ceremonial fold of the flag, we recognize the

principles on which our country was founded: liberty, unity, justice, and sacrifice.

On Flag Day, we will join more than three-quarters of a million American Legion Auxiliary members across the nation as we honor our service members and reflect on their commitment to our country.

Whether you are a veteran, the loved one of a service-member, or patriotic citizen, there are many ways to honor local heroes, such as visiting veterans' homes, assisting with recognition ceremonies, collecting personal memories and photos from veterans to create keepsake journals, or simply flying the US flag in tribute to their sacrifice.

As you wave the flag on June 14, remember that showing your gratitude for veterans doesn't have to be limited to Flag Day, Memorial Day, or Veterans Day. Throughout the year, join the American Legion Auxiliary in serving veterans, military and their families who have sacrificed for our freedom.

Thank you to all who have served Old Glory. Happy Flag Day!

Founded in 1919, the ALA helps to advance the mission of The American Legion. With nearly three-quarters of a million members, it is the world's largest women's patriotic service organization and one of the nation's most prominent supporters of veterans, military and their families. ALA members volunteer millions of hours annually, with a value averaging \$2 billion each year. From helping draft the GI Bill on 1944 to advocating for veterans on Capitol Hill, The American Legion Family has been instrumental in advancing legislation that improves the quality of life for our nation's veterans.

To learn more and get involved, Visit www.ALAforVeterans.org.

Georgeann Herling
President
ALA Unit 360
Weatherly



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White Haven sets up on-line bill pay system

by Ruth Isenberg

At the May 18 White Haven Borough Council meeting, borough manager Linda Szoke reported that the Municipipay system to allow residents to pay taxes and other fees on-line should be set up and live in June. That system is now in place, and can be accessed through the borough website, www.whitehavenborough.org, clicking the Pay Bill link in the menu bar near the top of the page. Payments can be made by credit card or electronic check. Local fines and fees can also be paid here, but not district citations.

The meeting was held through Zoom, with most participants phoning in, and was also streamed live on Facebook.

Szoke said she received complaints from the Kernan family in Woodhaven about odors from Standard Farms,

a complaint that was echoed later in the meeting by Mayor Fred Meier. Other complaints received through the month included reports of speeding on Buffalo Street, and the police department also had complaints about speeding on Honeyhole Road in Dennison Township and at Penn Lake, a concern because more people seem to be out walking now that the weather is better.

Engineer

Don Totino reported that the existing subbase had to be removed and the driveway area at the new firehouse regraded before paving could begin. The cost of \$2,260 will be covered by liquid fuels money.

Work is continuing on the interactive zoning map, which will link to Luzerne County GIS.

The architect for the second floor addition to the municipal

building has suggested that council consider appointing a construction manager for the project, and hold one more meeting before putting the project out to bid. Totino felt the bids could be accepted for the July meeting of council, and a decision about naming a construction manager could be held until the bid is awarded.

Solicitor

Atty. Sean Logsdon reported that an invoice had been sent to Mary Keil for demolition of her property. Once that is paid, work can begin, and once the demolition is complete, the property will be turned over to the borough.

Manager

To coordinate with Luzerne County, council approved extending the time to pay the face value of property taxes until August 19.

It may be possible to hold an electronics recycling event in July; some county grants are available.

A webinar has been scheduled to review the Luzerne County Hazard Mitigation Plan.

Receipts of \$51,416.75 were received from tax collector Katherine Oross, along with \$308.70 in real estate transfer taxes. Approximateely \$17,000 in property taxes was still outstanding.

Council ended the 8 p.m. curfew.

Public works supervisor Joe Wychock said Hometown Hero banners were going up, and he was cleaning up around town for Memorial Day weekend. Street cleaning and pothole patching were also underway.

Finance committee chair Charles Best reported that the borough was doing good in covering expenses, but

that \$30,000 taken from the investment account had not yet been replaced in anticipation of COVID-19 response expenses. He also noted that water receipts were not very good, only about \$7,000 for April. On his suggestion, Atty. Logsdon will look at the contract with EZ Water to see if the borough has any options to contract with other parties who might haul more water; reportedly EZ is just taking overflow, according to one of the haulers.

Bills of approximatley \$22,000 were approved for payment, including audit expenses of \$7,800.

Council will meet this Monday, June 22, via Zoom at 6:30 p.m., following an executive session at 6 for updates on litigation. See the legal ad on page 3 for instructions on how to join the meeting.

Veterans Corner

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

New York citizens rejoiced Friday's re-opening allowing citizens basic activities. People were walking, having conversations, and smiling. You could eat out in a restaurant, have a beer in a bar or enjoy the beach. To many, it prompted them to take off their masks and get a little closer than the State imposed "six feet."

But by Sunday, Governor Andrew Cuomo (D-NY) was on the warpath, in a rant, he was issuing warnings to people and the just opened businesses that he would

shut them down, take their licenses and fine them for allowing masks and social distancing to be lax. He spoke of the high-tech video and facial recognition that would quickly identify the violators and they would be prosecuted to the full extent of the law. These threats are directed to those who complied for 4 months, lost most of what they worked and paid taxes for, and are struggling to recover. The citizens whose life blood and toil provides the taxes to keep the politicians on the gravy train.

Flash back two weeks ago when the anarchists were looting and burning the city, robbing and demolishing the stores, shops and restaurants of the working taxpaying citizens. The police were ordered to stand down by NYC mayor William DeBlasio, and governor Cuomo refused to call up the National Guard to control the lawlessness. The result was billions in property damage, stolen merchandise, food spoilage and theft. For this there was no mention of high-tech video and facial recognition to identify,

arrest and hold responsible or even attempt to stop the madness. So, if you are a liberal anarchist supported by a political party, you are protected and overlooked by existing law.

Is this the new order, penalize the working tax-paying population while hammering them with every insignificant infraction, the on the other side of the fence, allow, encourage, and promote looting, assaults on business owners, killing of police and average people protecting their business?

It's easy for many of my age group, whose parents fought WWII to see the real purpose of what is happening. It is easy to see for so many who were lucky enough to have honest, unedited history taught to them in school. Here are all the signs of a hostile takeover.

But for the patriotic few, it will be unacceptable and a new revolution to regain personal freedom will begin.

Freedom is but one generation away from being lost as described by President Ronald Reagan, may freedom continue to ring.



After months of construction and a delay due to COVID-19, the reconstruction of the ramps from Interstate 80 to the PA Turnpike at Route 940 in Kidder Township are done. Line painting took place this week, cleanup and final shoulder work was near done when this photo was taken on Tuesday afternoon. PennDOT reports these new ramps onto and off of Interstate 80 will open this Friday. Detours for the traffic sent single and double tractor-trailers, other trucks and a wide variety of travelers along Route 940 in Kidder. Those detours will be removed.

Photo and cutline by Seth Isenberg



A fire that ignited late Sunday afternoon destroyed an old garage on Chemung Street, while getting hot enough to melt siding on homes across the street. Before the photo was taken, there was a scramble to get the cars parked near the homes away. The SUV at the home directly across from the garage was beginning to smoke as it was driven off. Quick work by the White Haven Volunteer Fire Co. kept the fire from getting to a tire pile in the rear of the garage, or burning high enough to affect the transformer that was, fortunately, just far enough away. There were no injuries. The WHVFC was assisted by Freeland VFC, the White Haven Ambulance and Valley Regional EMS.

Photo and story by Seth Isenberg

Archives...

Continued from page 2

ist Church is leaving. He was recently assigned to serve at St. Paul's UMC in Geigertown (Berks County), to move in late June and begin his new ministry on July 1. He has been president of the White Haven Ministerium these past two years, and active in the Hazleton Enlarged Ministry. In White Haven, he was an emergency medical technician on the White Haven Ambulance, and also served as a deputy coroner in Carbon County.

White Haven Borough council opened bids for garbage hauling, to begin later this year. Grand Central Sanitation looks to be the low bidder (of four) for the one, two or three year garbage contract, with recycling.

John Scalleat requested to place a sign on Route 940 to show where the road to his eatery is. The sign is to keep people from turning up the off-ramp to Interstate 80. The sign will be placed immediately, with the Zoning Hearing Board and PennDOT permissions being requested with the sign in place.

White Haven Council will ask to be removed from the Regional Equipment Center, and will ask for its investment back, "considering that nothing from there works to the satisfaction of council."

The Senior Friendship Club, at their meeting last week, paid tribute to Flags and Fathers. The nearly 110 people at the meeting heard from the Carbon County Office on Aging about the Senior Games, to be held in Jim Thorpe from June 22 to 28. Games are from bingo and darts to bocci and horseshoes, pinochle,

checkers, bean bags, shuffleboard, pool, bowling, dancing, ping pong, golf, and more.

The catered picnic scheduled for June 21 had to be postponed due to a gypsy moth infestation — to be rescheduled in July.

Scott Coll was appointed by the Weatherly Area School Board as cross country coach. He succeeded George Munro, who has moved from the area.

It's hoped that an old-time ball team can be assembled to play an exhibition game at Lehigh Park on July 8 as part of the New Bridge Festival. Also wanted are old-time baseball stories. Contact Ed Gower.

The Weatherly Area Girls Softball League has started. The Garber/Drasher and Wagner Hardware teams started strong. The Weath-

erly Area Community Pharmacy team won its first game after three losses, beating the Legion team for win #1. They followed that win up with another, edging Wagner's 2-1 — pinning a first loss on that team. Wagner's edged the Pharmacy in their next game, 13-12 in a come from behind win, but the Pharmacy then went on and beat Legion twice in a double-header the following day.

Weatherly Babe Ruth split their first few games and have started to become consistent, ending these two weeks with a 23-7 five inning game vs. Luchi Builders at their field in Drums. The Junior Babe Ruth team also started up and down, before settling in to winning ways — beating Keystone in their June 13 game — 13-1 in a four inning game.

WASB gets closer to 2020-21 budget; trims tax increase

by Seth Isenberg

It is down to three choices for the Weatherly Area School Board when it votes on a 2020-21 budget. Due to modernization program of the District's buildings, with construction costs of over \$12 million, taxes will be going up. On the table are: a .78 mill increase — which leaves a \$792,571 deficit for the year; a 1.4 mill increase that cuts the deficit to \$700,820; and the 1.6 mill increase that was adopted as the preliminary budget at May's meeting, which leaves a deficit of \$657,665.

Based on a calculation reported in an earlier article, that would mean an increase of about \$87 per \$100,000 valuation.

Ideas were sought from various groups in the hopes that savings can be identified. Nothing of substance has been offered up. There is hope the Carbon County might step up to buy WiFi hot spots in bulk, to give districts savings.

On the other hand, there may be increased transportation costs if social distancing takes school bus capacity from 72 students, to 24. This would mean more bus runs.

Board members agreed to extend the pre-payment deadline for school taxes by 30 days, and do the same and extend the time for paying at face value by 30 days.

Next Wednesday will be the Board's caucus meeting, and the regular voting meet-

WH Lions announces scholarship winners



The White Haven Lions Club recently presented scholarship awards to three outstanding local students.

This year's award winners are Kayla Dickert, Clayton Kimsal, and Coleman Smith. According to president Denise Ziebel,



this year's scholarship recipients have set an excellent



example for others through their hard work, dedication,

and community involvement, and the White Haven Lions Club is very pleased to be able to recognize these exemplary achievements. Pictured from left are Kayla Dickert, Clayton Kimsal, and Coleman Smith.

The White Haven Lions Club sponsors a number of community support projects and events, and always welcomes new members. The club meets on the second and fourth Thursday of each month at 6:30 pm. For more information please contact wh.lions@yahoo.com.

WHUMC to meet in person next weekend

The White Haven United Methodist Church with Pastor David Botzer at 900 Buffalo St will be re-opening for in person services on June 28 at 9 a.m.

Recommended precautions

will be taken as we enter the green phase of the COVID-19 recovery. Facemasks will be required. If you do not have one available they can be obtained upon entry to the church, and social distancing

will be required.

For those at higher risk and those who do not yet feel comfortable with social gatherings, the plan is to continue offering a live stream of the service on Facebook.

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Dean's List Roster

Bloomsburg University
Julia Hinkle from Weatherly; Shaianne Perkins from Weatherly; Antonio Grotto-la from White Haven; Alexa Hady from White Haven; Eric Lamezec from White Haven.

Lebanon Valley College
Jeremy Moser of Weatherly, a graduate of Weatherly Area High School, who is pursuing a bachelor of science in actuarial science.

Saint Francis University
Megan Wood, Psychology major from White Haven.

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More virtual events from Wildlands Conservancy

Backyard Birds Part 2

Join us on Saturday, June 20, from 3 to 3:45 p.m. for our live, virtual Backyard Birds Part 2: Windows and Hawks. The program is \$10 per family and only one family member needs to register. Participants will be sent Zoom video information once registered. To register, please visit www.wildlandspa.org.

Did you know that your windows are one of the big-

gest threats to birds in your backyard? We will chat with Muhlenberg College Ornithologist Peter Saenger about this issue and what we can do to eliminate it, and then we will make our own window-strike deterrents for a standard size window. We will end this program by meeting a hawk. Participants will be given a kit with all of the required supplies – kits can be picked up or shipped to you (shipping

will incur an additional cost).

Participants will be sent Zoom video and pick-up information once registered.

Bike Maintenance & Safety

Join us on Tuesday, June 23, from 6:30 to 7:15 p.m. for our live, virtual Bike Maintenance and Safety Workshop. The program is \$10 per family and only one family member needs to register. Participants will be sent Zoom video information once registered. To register, please visit www.wildlandspa.org.

Want to learn the basics of bike safety, etiquette, and maintenance on and off the trail? 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 you bike chain, and more. Registration closes at 10 a.m. on 6/23/20.

Backyard Birds Part 3

Join us on Saturday, June 27, from 3 to 3:45 p.m. for our live, virtual Backyard Birds Part 3: Landscaping for Birds!

The program is \$10 per family and only one family member needs to register. Participants will be sent Zoom video information once registered. To register, please visit www.wildlandspa.org.

We will chat with Lehigh Valley Audubon Society Vice President Barbara Malt about what we can do in our yards to attract more birds and help out the ones we have. The focus will be on native plants, and all participants will be sent bird-friendly plant seeds to plant in their yards. We will end the program by meeting a live education bird.

Pow-Wow planned for July in Drums

The public is welcome July 18-19 at an inter-tribal Native American Pow-Wow at Camp Rotawanis in Drums. Chief Littlewolf and the Tribal Council of the Wyoming Trail Council of Pennsylvania's Native Americans issued the invitation, "as we attempt to step out of the heavy shadows of the Coronavirus Pandemic that has made us feel shut-in for so long. As our Native American culture followers of both native and non-native peoples have been deprived by the cancellation of so many other events, we feel that it is time to come together once again in the spirit of our old ways.

"Since many of us of the first nations are geographically separated by great distances, Pow-Wow has always been a way for us to come together to visit with one another, share our cultures, not only with one another but also with the general public so they may better understand our ways as we strive to hold onto the old ways of our past, while we must live with one foot on each side of a line that separates two very different ways

of life. It is also a very spiritual time for us, as much prayer is involved in our dance, song, and drum. Many of the vendors who are set up at our Pow-Wow depend on the sale of their wares, as it is their only means of income, and as we mentioned, most Pow-Wows for this summer have been cancelled.

"We will, however, be making every attempt to practice all safety measures possible during this event, and we hope that you will also, and above all, afford the respect of those around you.

"As we of Native American heritage are a very spiritual peoples, we will be looking to the Creator to bless us and keep all who attend safe. We hope that you will join us for these two days of festivities and activities. If you have any questions or concerns, please call the tribal office at 570-427-8723, or email us at wyo-mingtrail@outlook.com."

Gates Open at 10 a.m. both days, with Grand Entry at noon. Admission is \$6; children under 12 are free. There is free parking. Bring your lawn chair.

Congratulations

CLASS

2020

Next week, the *Journal-Herald* will honor the graduates of the Class of 2020. To include a personal message to honor your graduate—or all the graduates—call 570-215-0204 xt304 or email journalruth@gmail.com



Faith Fathers Day in person service

Faith Church, Weatherly will be starting In Person Services on Sunday, June 21, at 6 p.m. Join us in the am-

phitheater at Eurana Park for music and a special Father's Day message from Pastor

Sal Reyes. There will be free ice cream for all men, All are invited.

Weatherly Area Community Library lists new hours

The Weatherly Area Community Library is now open. New hours are as follows:
Monday 2:30-5:30
Tuesday 2:30-5:30
Wednesday 2:30-5:30

Thursday 3-5
Friday 10-12
Saturday 9-12
There are some restrictions. No more than 3 people are allowed to visit at a time and

everyone must have a mask. Thank you for your patience. We are very happy to be able to open our doors again!



Attention All Kids

If you are in K-5th grade, come check out the Faith Kids' Clubhouse, every Sunday at 6 p.m. at the Eurana Park Pavilion.

Services resume at Salem U.C.C.

Salem U.C.C. in Weatherly will resume worship on Sunday, June 21 at 9:30 a.m. Masks and social distancing are required. We encourage those who are "at risk" (those

over 65 and/or those with medical conditions) to refrain from attending. The service has been modified for both safety and comfort.

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Seth's Sightings

by Seth Isenberg

It's graduation season – just in time for our area to start opening up from the Covid-19 restrictions. Ruth and I attended our third event this Friday, Crestwood's graduation. We split up – I took photos of the parade while Ruth set up as working press at the stage. It is always exciting to see the graduates. The parade was a bit of extra fun.

When that event wrapped up, we went out to dinner with Slater (outside dining in Wilkes-Barre).

After some work and shopping on Saturday, we rewarded ourselves with a distance trip and a stop at a dairy farmstand for some ice cream. Because I had dessert early, I worked off the calories doing yard work – trimming trees that had started to be overgrown.

Sunday was an easy day, celebrated with a lakeside lunch

on a deck in Lake Harmony. We enjoyed watching the busy lake with power and pontoon boats, kayaks and paddle boats, plus a mama Mallard and her fleet of six little ones. At one point, it looked like a duck got bit on the foot by a fish and the duck almost levitated out of the water before flying a short distance, causing the other ducks to panic and flee.

Other sightings include having to stop on a rural road to let four geese waddle across the road. A lone turkey in the road while we traversed Hickory Run State Park also had traffic stopped.

I was impressed by the amount of rain most of our area received during thunderstorms last Thursday – an absolute hosing. There are washouts on roadsides all around.

Also in the way of a sighting, the mountain laurel flowers in Hickory Run State Park are offering a spectacular display.

It has been a very good bird-watching week – bright orange orioles, red and brown cardinals, blue jays, various woodpeckers, hawks, and the above mentioned turkeys. Add to these a variety of butterflies – to make a good week with critter watching.

Since the weather has warmed, I changed from storm windows and managed to let a giant moth into our house while the screen was off. It took a bit of tracking, but I found it due to its big wings making a near buzz when flying. It perched by the kitchen window and I used an empty container to trap it and toss it back outside so it could fly off.

With sports opening back up, Ruth and I have been

impatiently waiting for hockey season to start again. We thought it would be in May – rather than July. Summertime pro hockey will be different.

We are not really caring about the NBA even as Philadelphia and Boston teams will be in the hunt, but at least they've got a plan to get going. NASCAR just announced they can take some fans, but sadly, not here at Pocono. We're going to host a fantastic weekend of racing next door and nobody will be in the stands, which is sad.

And about major league baseball and the players not agreeing – fans should be at the table. They could have been playing already. I think this delay will hurt their brand, though we'll see if fans flock back once their games begin (I'm thinking they will not).

Also on sports, I am nervous about whether college sports will take their fields this fall. Here's hoping the games can be played, even as questions about all the fans need to be answered. Fans can be spaced for safety – with TV an equalizer. As long as the athletes are safe and healthy, the

games can be played.

With festivals and fairs getting canceled, the sports events will matter more. As Ruth and I spot events that will get held, we'll publicize them. Looking ahead, the Mauch Chunk Opera House is restarting its shows; and on July 18 and 19, the Inter-Tribal Pow Wow will be held in Drums, with guests welcome.

Happy Father's Day and welcome to Summer – both on the 21st while keeping healthy as our area reopens for business. Please support the local businesses who, having been closed for months, need your business more than ever.



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Coming Events



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JUNE 14, Sunday—Flag Retirement Ceremony, 7 p.m., American Legion Post 781, Mountain Top

JUNE 26, Friday—Food Truck Festival, 4–8 p.m., Lehigh Park, White Haven

JUNE 26, Friday—Pizza Sale, 4–6 p.m., American Legion Post 360, Weatherly (order deadline 6/19, 570-427-4527)

JUNE 27, Saturday—Neighborhood Yard Sale, 8 a.m.–2 p.m., Weatherly, Packer Twp., Lehigh Twp., Lausanne Twp., Beaver Meadows

JUNE 27, Saturday—Food Truck Festival, 4–8 p.m., Lehigh Park, White Haven

JUNE 27, Saturday—Bounty Hunter, 6–10 p.m., White Haven Fire Co. Club

JUNE 28, Sunday—Food Truck Festival, 11 a.m.–8 p.m., Lehigh Park, White Haven

JULY 18, Saturday—Inter-Tribal Native American Pow-Wow, 10 a.m., Camp Rotawanis, Drums, 570-427-8723

JULY 19, Sunday—Inter-Tribal Native American Pow-Wow, 10 a.m., Camp Rotawanis, Drums, 570-427-8723

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- Bobby Pickett's "Monster ____"
- Infection from contaminated water or food
- Formerly Cassius Clay
- Slow, musically speaking
- ____ Ste. Marie, Ontario
- Bonding words
- Like draft beer
- *Cognac, orange liqueur, lemon juice
- *Tropical cocktail favorite
- Motion of approval
- *Home of pisco sour
- Smoker's residue
- Big butte
- *It has both white and dark rum
- Popular BBQ side
- Pea houses
- *Hold your drink aloft in honor
- "Downton Abbey" countess
- Subject of 17th century Dutch mania

- Cote d'Azur locale
- Teatro alla Scala offering
- Sushi selection
- Kind of jeans fit
- *She famously disliked the eponymous drink
- Chesterfield or ulster
- Bro's sib
- Long and lean
- Petting spot
- *Negroni and boulevardier ingredient
- Time for the big bowl games
- Unethical loaner's practice
- Designed to guarantee equal rights
- Cooler manufacturer
- #38 Down, pl.
- Atlantic catch
- Musical ensemble
- Rodeo Drive tree
- It's of the beholder
- Rosetta Stone, e.g.

DOWN

- Difficult situation
- Antioxidant-rich berry
- Common contraction

- Fancy tie
- Ski run
- Sheik's bevy
- *Whiskey ____
- Charged particles
- Flip side, pl.
- Binary digits code
- Things on a list
- "Star Trek" speed
- Fodder holder
- Eloise's residence
- Quiets
- Otitis organ
- *Popular mixer, pl.
- Brother's daughter
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Freeland Y gets facelift during pandemic shutdown

by Steve Stallone
Sports Editor

The Freeland YMCA has been at the very heart of that community for more than a century. It has been home to countless basketball games, from high school down to biddy, pickup games and tournaments. It has hosted dance classes and dances, and been a place to go for fitness and yoga, hockey, weightlifting or just to hang out with some friends.

Since mid-March, the hub of the community's many activities has been shut down due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

While the Y has remained closed to the public for three months now, the staff has been busy behind the scenes preparing for the day when

the doors can open again.

"The staff here has been excellent and has gone above and beyond the call, bringing a new life to the Y," said interim CEO Chris Kimmel. "When we first closed, we looked at what can we do in the meantime to kind of bring us up to speed. You would have had to close to paint and do all these things, but being closed we looked at that as an opportunity to revamp, so that when we're able to reopen, we're able to give back to everybody in a new way."

Updates, including a fresh coat of paint, have been made to the fitness and multi-purpose rooms, as well as the weight room and the foyer as you enter the Y. Pictures of championship teams from



The gymnasium floor at the Freeland YMCA has been resurfaced, and other improvements have been made since the doors have been closed due to the coronavirus pandemic.
Photo by Steve Stallone

the controls since longtime executive director Joe Flanagan resigned in early March to take a similar position in Bloomsburg. Kimmel was on the Y's Board of Directors at the time. "We had a decision to make as a board on what we were going to do because Joe was leaving. I just thought at this point I've volunteered here, I've worked here, I was here as a kid. I'll step off of our board and take over in the interim," Kimmel explained. "I'm doing pretty much the administrative part, phone calls and being the point person for the Y."

For Kimmel, following in Flanagan's footsteps is an honor. "Joe was here ever since I was a kid, and in the executive director position, CEO, at least 15 years. Before that he was a program director under Tommy Landers, who was the CEO at that time. It's kind of bittersweet now, being in this position, because I'm following in the footsteps of someone I've admired my whole life. All the life lessons that Joe's kind of given me, being my basketball coach, a mentor throughout my life.

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

years past adorn the freshly painted walls, and trophy shelves are being made from repurposed wood from the gym's old bleachers.

Meanwhile, the gymnasium floor has been sanded down and resurfaced, eager to be put to the sneaker test.

"This place looks fantastic," Kimmel said. "I have an almost every Sunday ritual where people are asking are we allowed to get in the gym yet, or do you have any idea when it's going to open. That's the clientele we have. Their love of basketball grew out of here.

"I'll be excited to open those doors soon and let all these guys get back into the gym

and put the floor to use."

New leadership

Kimmel, 30, has been at

Continues on page 16.

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NFL surprise: Dolphins will win the AFC East, and here's why

by **Joey Dykes**

Off-season additions, Brady's departure from NE, and a favorable schedule play in the Dolphins' favor. Don't be surprised if Miami goes 10-6 and wins the AFC East.

The most significant addition to Miami's offense is QB Tua Tagovailoa. He'll replace Josh Rosen and Ryan Fitzpatrick, a tandem with 21 TDs and 18 INTs last year. As long as Tua remains healthy, he'll improve the Dolphins'

QB play, including helping DeVante Parker have a breakout season.

But the QB position wasn't the only off-season improvement. Miami did a lot to improve one of the team's most glaring weaknesses--the O-line--a line that ranked last in the NFL last year with 58 sacks. To flip that script, the Dolphins drafted four linemen, including two players in the opening two rounds. A better O-line will give Tua

more time to throw and run when needed.

And Miami's defense will be improved, too. The Dolphins had a serviceable defense in 2019, and they'll be even better this time. One reason is secondary additions - Byron Jones (Cowboys) and Noah Igbinoghene (Auburn). Jones was the best free-agent corner available, and Igbinoghene was a top-5 corner in the 2020 NFL Draft.

And even if teams count-

er by running more, they'll be running into a Miami strength. The Dolphins had the League's 5th best run-defense last year, and the run defense will even better in 2020 with the addition of Shaq Lawson, Emmanuel Ogbah, and Raekwon Davis on the defensive line, and Kyle Van Noy at linebacker. Those four will also help improve the Dolphins' pass rush, too.

The schedule also works in the Dolphins' favor. Miami

gets a break by playing New England with an untested QB in Week 1. And if the Dolphins can split the season series with Buffalo, they could challenge the Bills for the division crown.

So there you have it. The Miami Dolphins - a team that few are giving the credit they deserve - could win the AFC East and be playoff-bound.

Alabama-based Joey Dykes writes at The Sports Column.

Which college teams are best represented in the NBA?

by **Justin Levine**

5. Texas Longhorns: Avery Bradley, PJ Tucker, Kevin Durant, LaMarcus Aldridge, Myles Turner, Jarrett Allen. This team would be successful in today's NBA. They have a superstar in KD, along with solid big men Aldridge and Turner,

both of whom can score and shoot from range. PJ Tucker is one of the best 3-and-D guys in the League, and Bradley is a defensive-minded point guard. NBA-Texas has the option of going with Jarrett Allen over Turner if they want a more defensive lineup. Wow!

4. Kansas Jayhawks: Devon-

te' Graham, Kelly Oubre, Andrew Wiggins, Marcus Morris, Joel Embiid. This team can flat-out score! Get this: Marcus Morris, averaging 17.4 ppg this season, is the lowest scorer on the team. The emergence of Graham, the league favorite to win the NBA's Most Improved Player, puts KU ahead of UT in my rankings. And there's more! Oubre and Wiggins have unmatched athleticism on the wings, and Embiid contends as the League's best center. Yowza!

3. UCLA Bruins: Russell Westbrook, Jrue Holiday, Lonzo Ball, Zach LaVine, Kevin Love. This group would be known for frenetic play. Westbrook and Lonzo love to push the tempo, and Holiday will help them take care of the ball. You can bank on getting a consistent 17-and-10 from Love, and Westbrook would run the break with the high-flying Zach LaVine. I love this line-up!

2. Duke Blue Devils: Kyrie Irving, JJ Redick, Brandon Ingram, Jayson Tatum, Zion Williamson. No RJ Barrett? Not yet. Let's wait until he

refines his game. For now, I'm going with JJ. Breakout stars Ingram and Tatum join him as wings who can take over games. And let's face it: we haven't seen the best of Zion - not by a longshot. Kyrie runs the show on a team that would be gobs of fun to watch!

1. Kentucky Wildcats: John Wall, Devin Booker, Shai Gilgeous-Alexander, Anthony Davis, Karl-Anthony Towns. UK is my #1 team, hands down. The 'Cats have it all--rising stars in Booker and SGA, proven stars in Davis and Towns, and a veteran looking for redemption (coming off an injury) in John Wall. Growth in Booker and SGA is what really impresses me, and I also like the offensive and defensive balance of this crew. What a nightmare for opponents! I know John Calipari has critics, but there's one thing you can't debate: He sends gobs of great players to the NBA!

Honorable Mention, Major Teams

Arizona: Allonzo Trier, Andre Iguodala, Aaron Gordon, Lauri Markannan, DeAndre

Ayton

UConn: Kemba Walker, Shabazz Napier, Jeremy Lamb, Rudy Gay, Andre Drummond

Louisville: Terry Rozier, Donovan Mitchell, Ray Spalding, Montrezl Harrell, Gorgui Dieng

Gonzaga: Zach Norvell, Kelly Olynyk, Domantas Sabonis, Rui Hachimura, Zach Collins

Michigan State: Gary Harris, Denzel Valentine, Draymond Green, Miles Bridges, Jaren Jackson Jr.

Honorable Mention, Players from Mid-Major Teams

Mid-major teams don't send great players in numbers to the NBA, but that doesn't mean mid-majors don't send great players to the NBA. Here are my top five guys: Steph Curry (Davidson), Damian Lillard (Weber State), Kawhi Leonard (San Diego State), Paul George (Fresno State), and Pascal Siakam (New Mexico State).

From the New York Metro area, Justin Levine writes for The Sports Column.

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Freeland Y...

Continued from page 14.

"I don't know if there's one specific thing, but just being a good person with a good heart, a lot of those things I got from him."

After just a few days on the job, Kimmel and the Y faced its first big hurdle together: the coronavirus. "COVID-19 kind of came along, and after two days of me doing this, we had to make the decision as a board and as a Y to close our doors. We closed our doors here March 15," Kimmel explained. "Unfortunately you have to tell people I have no hours for you. Most of the people that work here are part time."

It didn't stop volunteer work from continuing, nor did it stop the Y's fundraising efforts or the generosity from the community it serves.

"COVID wasn't easy to deal with, but when you have such a supportive community, everybody wants to reach out to the Y and say 'How can I lend a hand?' People want to give their time and their money. It's rewarding on my end.

"We've had support from donors, some individual donors and some organizations. We obtained a small loan and were able to bring our staff members back after being closed for a few weeks, and with that money we were able to make some of the much-needed improvements," Kimmel said. "The job that they did is amazing. If it weren't for them, we'd be back at square one."

Despite the pandemic, the Y's annual flower sale went off without a hitch. Kimmel said the line of cars to pick up flowers was several blocks long. "In two days we sold 1,280 flower pots. This year's was probably our most successful

ever," he said, thanking Van Hoekelen Greenhouses for their help and generosity. "They team up with us every year, they drop off the flowers. It's another one of those good relationships you have with the community."

As a way to raise funds and promote a healthy lifestyle, the Y joined forces with Second Wind Race Timing to promote virtual online races this spring.

"They approached us with wanting to promote a positive message to keep everyone in a healthy lifestyle," he explained. "It was an opportunity that we knew nothing about, but because somebody wanted to help us, Second Wind Race brought this opportunity where we're promoting healthy living and lifestyles like we would normally do when we're open."

Being a member agency of the United Way of Greater Hazleton, the Freeland Y also continues to receive funds from the United Way throughout the shutdown.

The Y's program directors haven't let the down time slow them down. Kimmel said some have come up with a new way to reach the youth during this pandemic. "Everybody's bringing fitness classes to the public via Zoom online. They wanted to bring basketball from the Freeland YMCA to the youth and

anybody that wanted to do it. So, about two weeks ago they launched what they called the Freeland YMCA Basketball Family, an extension of our Freeland YMCA Programs page on Facebook. Each day these guys have filmed small group sessions on dribbling, ball skills, defensive slides. If you log on to Facebook you can watch that and do them in your driveway."

Reopening plans

As counties slowly move from the yellow to green phase statewide, some businesses are beginning to reopen. Kimmel is waiting patiently for when the Y gets the go ahead. Luzerne County goes green on Friday. "We're strictly following CDC guidelines. With us being located in Luzerne County, we're kind of the last set that will eventually open."

Kimmel has been on conference calls with other YMCAs, sharing information on plans to reopen. He also visited Flanagan's YMCA in Bloomsburg, in Columbia County, which opened Monday. "I asked Joe if I could come down and see for myself how they're going to operate, so I can share that with our staff."

Kimmel also met with borough officials on the subject, and has received guidance and assistance from virtually every department. "We've had a lot of people coming together to make sure that the Y is ready

to reopen."

When the Freeland Y does open, there will be new guidelines in place. "There's going to be some changes when our members come back, because we want to make sure everyone's health is the number one priority," Kimmel said. "Some of the precautions that they'll need to adhere to coming back are the CDC guidelines, like wearing a mask. Before they can use our facility they'll have to do a basic screening, until we're told otherwise."

When they do get the ok to open, they'll do so in phases. "Phase one we'll look for our members to come back. We'll look for our weight room and fitness room to open. The second phase we'll look at when we can start large group activities and things like that."

Kimmel is eager to get the Y's programs up and running once they can be safely. "We're hoping this summer we start with maybe a basketball camp, and maybe that turns into our summer basketball league that we usually do. With COVID-19 and everything that's happened we're taking it day by day."

He's also excited about a new program that is in the planning stages. Through a grant from the All One Foundation, the Y is looking to start up programming for children with autism. "The Carbondale YMCA first started program-

ming for children with autism. We're now in a unique position because of the success at Carbondale," Kimmel said. "We want to use some of our money (from All One) to bring more awareness and programming for children with autism. We want to do some Zumba, some sports activities in the gym, a painting night. Hopefully have some field trips, and we have the bowling alley in Freeland.

"Programming here has always been basketball, dance. Here's an opportunity to reach out to another group and provide added services for this community."

Kimmel is eager for when the Y can reopen and give back to the community again. And he's thankful to be able to give back to an organization he's been a part of most of his life. "I'm teacher by morning, and YMCA director by afternoon. Sometimes it's the opposite. Juggling those is kind of difficult. But I'm giving back to a Y that has given so much to me. It was an opportunity that I would have been crazy to turn down. You get to give back to the Y and to the community, and continue the relationships with the people that have been so good to me and to the people of this community.

"It's all about community, and the Freeland Y is the heart of this one."

