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Coronavirus' deadly new path

Cases on the rise in personal care homes

By Sean D. Hamill
Pittsburgh Post-Gazette

When Ted Sobek visited Oakleaf Personal Care Home in October to consider placing his 89-year-old mother in the Baldwin Borough home, the administrators emphasized one major point that has never left him.

"They were very proud of the fact that they had had no COVID cases," Mr. Sobek, of South Park, said.

Though infections at the time were low across the state, Mr.

POST-GAZETTE INVESTIGATION

Sobek said Oakleaf officials told him that they required residents to dine 6 feet apart and that all residents and staff members wore masks, among other restrictions.

On top of that, "it seemed homey," he said of Oakleaf, a midsize personal care home tucked away in a former elementary school, all of which

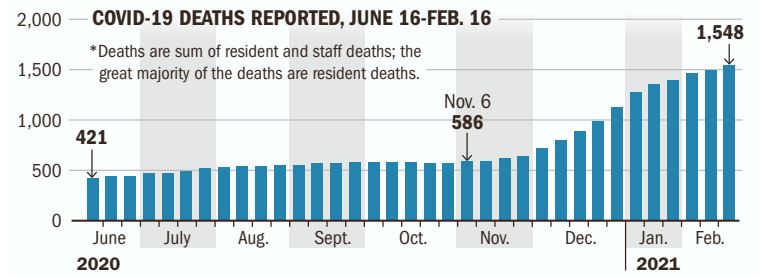
convinced his mother, Myrle Delewski, to move there in October.

Neither Mr. Sobek nor his mother could have known that Oakleaf and many personal care homes across the state were just weeks away from a large and deadly surge of COVID-19 outbreaks that began in November and would eventually claim the life of Mrs. Delewski and a dozen others at Oakleaf.

SEE HOMES, PAGE A-6

Pa. personal care homes see late surge in COVID-19 deaths

Starting in November, COVID-19 infections and deaths began to rise dramatically in Pennsylvania's 1,151 personal care homes, from 586 deaths in November to 1,548 in February. The figures are from the facilities' self-reported data that included 60 assisted living homes. It was a 164% increase in deaths — nearly triple the increase in fatalities in nursing homes during the same period.



NOTE: A slight decrease in deaths in late October was due to the evaluation and reconciliation of data.
Source: Pennsylvania Department of Health Research: Sean Hamill, graphic: Ed Zoywick/Post-Gazette

INDIE BLUES

Live music industry struggles to survive, with time and money now in short supply

By Scott Mervis
Pittsburgh Post-Gazette

For the past 30 years, Ron "Moondog" Esser has been Pittsburgh's biggest proponent of the blues, between running the Pittsburgh Blues Festival and playing host to both legends and newcomers at his club Moondog's in Blawnox.

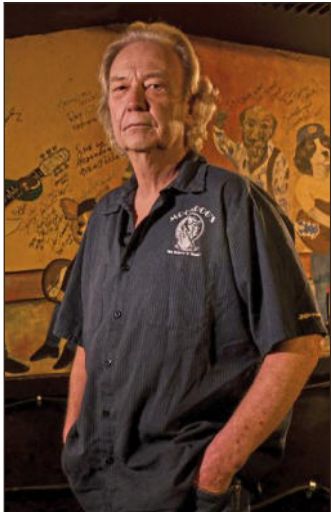
In 2005, The National Blues Foundation in Memphis honored him with the Keeping the Blues Alive award.

Over three decades of keeping it alive, there's been no bigger struggle than the time between March 2020 and right now.

A year into the pandemic, he's ready to resort to desperate measures, including that old church standby — spaghetti dinners.

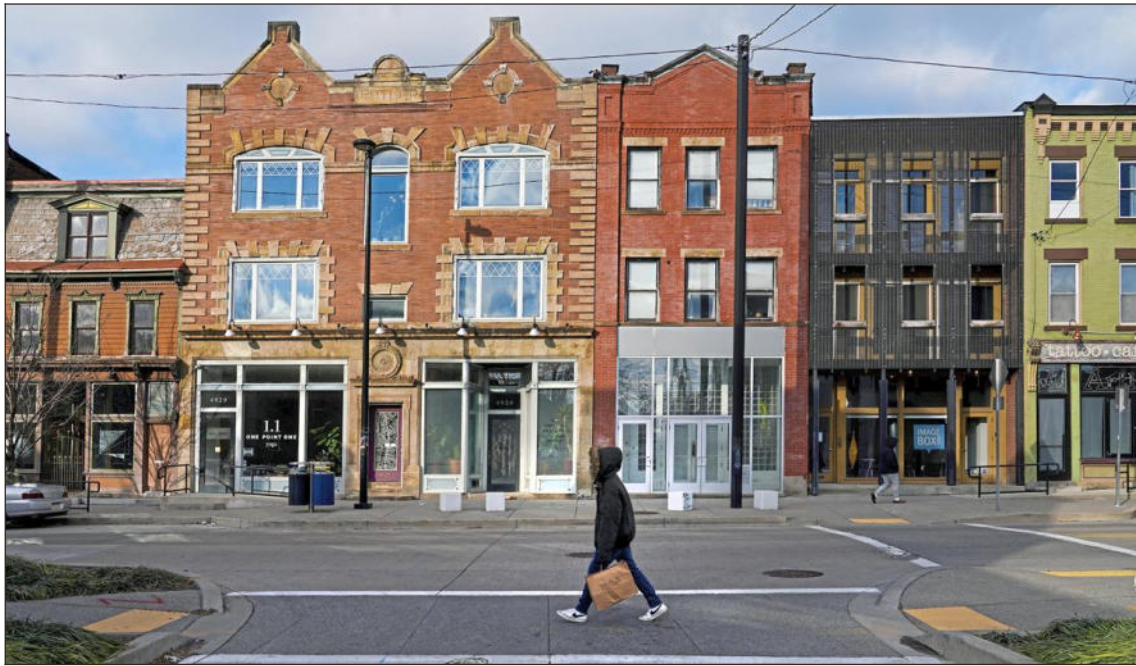
"I'm down to my last, like, \$1,200," Mr. Esser said. "I'm going to do spaghetti dinners starting in March, takeout only. I'm going to do enough just to pay the utilities and the taxes."

SEE VENUES, PAGE A-4



Ron "Moondog" Esser, owner of Moondog's in Blawnox

POST-GAZETTE SPECIAL REPORT: A BATTLE TO STAY AFLOAT



Steve Mellon/Post-Gazette

Businesses along this stretch of Penn Avenue at Gross Street in Garfield have had to adapt to survive.

'WE COULD SEE THE WAVE OF WHAT WAS COMING'

How 4 Pittsburgh business districts made their way through a year of pandemic

The question

When the coronavirus started to appear in China and then in parts of the U.S. early in 2020, some could see this global threat was eventually going to hit hard, even the smallest businesses in Pittsburgh's close-knit neighborhoods. Allison Harnden, Pittsburgh's nighttime economy manager, tracked the impending tsunami through a WhatsApp group of peers across the world whose job is to help their cities' social economies. "We could see the wave of what was coming," she said. And it was terrifying.

The research

In the fall, the Post-Gazette tapped four business news reporters to go deep into districts around the city. How were the neighborhoods surviving? Were they getting financial help? The team also analyzed data on loans through the federal Paycheck Protection Program that sent more than \$3 billion in low-interest forgivable loans to southwestern Penn-

Read more in print and at post-gazette.com

The stories of four Pittsburgh business districts will appear in the print and e-delivery over the next week, or you can go to <http://bit.ly/PGtheblock> for an immersive experience that presents all four districts' stories in one location.

sylvania. Did the money help?

The stories

In a series of stories, the businesses that make up some of

Pittsburgh's most recognizable blocks share their experiences. As the neighborhoods wrestle with how to survive the pandemic, these businesses are also pieces of a puzzle. They will determine how the South Side looks without crowds of college students thronging to its bars; how an up-and-coming Garfield art district deals with yet another setback in its plan to emerge from the scaffolding; how Homewood's dedicated businesses and nonprofits juggle the weight of a pandemic that has treated the area's Black residents brutally; and what happens when the music stops at East Ohio's hugely popular Deutschtown music festival.

When Ms. Harnden surveyed several hundred establishments on COVID-19's toll last spring, what stood out to her was the emotional struggle. "Do I save my business or support my employees?" they wondered. Do I stick to what I do best or retool for a new and temporary normal?

Read about the Penn Avenue businesses on Page A-10.

Major disaster declared in Texas

Post-Gazette wire services

HOUSTON — President Joe Biden signed a major disaster declaration that will allow much of Texas to tap vast reserves of federal aid, the White House said Saturday, offering a new lifeline to a state struggling to recover from a brutal winter

Inside

More deadly storms ahead for U.S., experts say, **A-19**

storm that left more than 50 dead and millions without power across the South.

Mr. Biden said Friday that he hopes to travel to Texas next week but doesn't want his presence and the accompanying entourage to distract from the recovery.

"They're working like the devil to take care of their folks," Mr. Biden said of Texas officials.

As Texas thawed from days of frigid darkness, an epic blame game emerged over who is responsible for the billions of dollars in damages from what some expected would become the most costly weather disaster in state history.

Texas's deregulated electrical grid triggered mass outages that left residents in the nation's second-most populous state trapped without heat for days in freezing homes. Several died following desperate attempts to stay warm, including a 75-year-old woman and her three young grandchildren in a suburban Houston house fire sparked by a fireplace.

Many other households faced jaw-dropping electrical bills from some of the state's increasingly popular variable-rate plans, which charged thousands of dollars for a few days of power as wholesale energy prices soared.

The plans offer a potentially lower-cost alternative to

SEE TEXAS, PAGE A-2


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ALMANAC

On this day, Feb. 21

1885 The Washington Monument was dedicated.
1939 Army engineers recommended a \$207 million Beaver-Youngstown canal with a "dead end" at Youngstown, Ohio. Pittsburgh civic and business interests immediately mobilized to continue their 20-year fight for a canal extending to Lake Erie.
1965 Minister and civil rights activist Malcolm X, 39, was shot to death inside Harlem's Audubon Ballroom in New York by assassins identified as members of the Nation of Islam.
1977 President Jimmy Carter named Pittsburgh Mayor Pete Flaherty deputy U.S. attorney general.
2007 Pittsburgh was chosen for US Airways' \$25 million flight operations control center, which would employ 600 people. Some items are from Stefan Lorant's "Pittsburgh: The Story of an American City" (digital.library.pitt.edu/chronology).

— Compiled by Rick Nowlin

Today's birthdays: Movie director Bob Rafelson, 88. Actor Gary Lockwood, 84. Actor Peter McEnery, 81. Actor Tyne Daly, 75. Actor Anthony Daniels, 75. Former first daughter Tricia Nixon Cox, 75. Former Sen. Olympia J. Snowe, R-Maine, 74. Actor Christine Ebersole, 68. Actor William Petersen, 68. Actor Kelsey Grammer, 66. Singer/guitarist Larry Campbell, 66. Country singer Mary Chapin Carpenter, 63. Actor Kim Coates, 63. Actor Christopher Atkins, 60. Actor William Baldwin, 58. Rock musician Eric Wilson, 51. Rock musician Tad Kinchla (Blues Traveler), 48. Actor Jennifer Love Hewitt, 42. Comedian-actor Jordan Peele, 42.5. Actor Ashley Greene, 34. Actor Elliot Page, 34. Actor Corbin Bleu, 32. Actor Sophie Turner, 25.

Thought for today: "You owe it to us all to get on with what you're good at."

— W.H. Auden, Anglo-American poet (born this date in 1907, died 1973)

Corrections & clarifications

If you have a correction and cannot reach the responsible reporter or editor, please call the office of Stan Wischnowski, executive editor, at 412-263-1890.

Pittsburgh Post-Gazette

Sun-Telegraph/The Pittsburgh Press

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Major disaster declared in Texas

TEXAS, FROM A-1

traditional fixed-rate energy payments, but the outages quickly raised havoc. One company, Griddy, said it was forced to raise its prices to 300 times higher than the normal wholesale rate, meaning a typical \$2-a-day household would face more than \$600 in daily charges.

Mr. Biden has spoken to the governors of the seven states most affected by the winter weather. He tweeted a photo of himself on the phone with Texas Gov. Greg Abbott, a Republican.

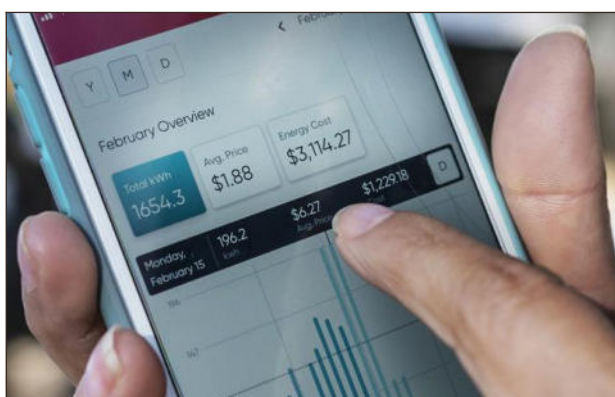
Mr. Abbott said Saturday he was convening an emergency meeting with state lawmakers to discuss the spikes, saying in a statement that "it is unacceptable for Texans who suffered through days in the freezing cold without electricity or heat to now be hit with skyrocketing energy costs."

The Electric Reliability Council of Texas, which manages the state's power grid, faces a state investigation and two lawsuits arguing that its failure to prepare for extreme cold left residents freezing and in the dark.

Texas Attorney General Ken Paxton said Friday he was launching an investigation into how ERCOT and other power companies had "grossly mishandled" the winter storm. An ERCOT official defended its decision to trigger rolling outages, saying in a statement Saturday that it had been the "right choice to avoid a statewide blackout."

The catastrophic winter storm was expected to become the "largest insurance claim event in [Texas] history," said the Insurance Council of Texas, a trade group, which estimated the damage would far outpace the \$19 billion in claims from Hurricane Harvey in 2017.

Mr. Biden's major disaster declaration in Texas, which followed similar state-



Ben Torres/The Dallas Morning News via AP
 Ivet Cantu, 45, points to her electricity bill from Griddy energy on an app showing her energy cost — \$3,114.27 — during recent severe winter weather Friday in Dallas.

of-emergency notices in Louisiana and Oklahoma, will allow the general public and business owners to apply for temporary-housing grants, home-repair loans and other emergency aid. Dallas Mayor Eric Johnson, a Democrat, said Saturday that the declaration would "help our city recover."

Mr. Biden's Texas declaration offers individual assistance to 77 of 254 counties, including the areas around Houston, Dallas and Austin, but does not cover the entire state.

Mr. Abbott said Saturday that the "partial approval is an important first step," and the White House said more counties could be covered as government officials continue assessing the damage. The Federal Emergency Management Agency has in recent days provided generators, food, water and other supplies statewide.

The gatekeepers of the Texas power grid — famously unregulated and disconnected from the broader U.S. — are expected to face intense scrutiny over whether they neglected infrastructural upgrades and weather safeguards that could have helped during the disaster. Congress is likely to open

an investigation next week into what went wrong, and the Texas Legislature is expected to hold its own hearings. At least two Texans have filed lawsuits faulting ERCOT for not heeding safety warnings or boosting energy supplies.

Although temperatures have risen since the Arctic storm dropped air below freezing, many across the South are just beginning to recover from the devastation of burst pipes, power failures and flooded homes.

More than 14 million people across the South are still without a consistent supply of clean drinking water, and roughly 80,000 utility customers across Texas woke up Saturday morning without heat or power.

In Houston, the nation's fourth-largest city, residents Saturday were still being told to boil all water. In Austin, the state capital, many homes still lacked running water, and officials couldn't say when it might return.

"This has just been one thing after another," Austin Mayor Steve Adler, a Democrat, told CNN on Friday. "This is a community of people that are scared and upset and angry. We're eventually going to need some better

answers to why we're here." More than 50 recent deaths have been linked to the bitterly cold weather and its aftermath, including from hypothermia, house fires and carbon-monoxide poisoning from people using cars or ovens to stay warm.

In the Houston suburb of Sugar Land, Loan Le, 75, and her three grandchildren — ages 5, 8 and 11 — died in a house fire early Tuesday after using a fireplace to stay warm overnight while without power, city spokesman Douglas Adolph said.

Even as temperatures warmed, the threat of ruptured pipes and dry water supplies threatened further strain. In Killeen, a fire at a fully occupied Hilton Garden Inn raged out of control after the hotel's sprinkler system failed, officials said. No deaths were reported, and the cause of the blaze is still unknown.

Many in the Lone Star State, faced with an uncertain recovery, have pushed to take matters into their own hands. Don Nichols, 70, visited four hardware stores Saturday trying to find parts to fix the busted pipes at his home in Crosby, 25 miles northeast of Houston, where he also owns a barn and some rental properties. He, his tenants and his 100 cows had been without water for most of the week.

On Saturday afternoon, Mr. Nichols stood in line with about 30 others at a Home Depot in the city of Humble, waiting to pick through the remaining plumbing supplies. He said he still remembers the last time it was this cold for this long: Christmastime 1989.

"I had my blankets on and my feather bed and my comforter and all of that, and I was still freezing to death," he said. "I'm a pretty tough ol' Boy Scout, and I don't worry about that. But this time, man, I did."

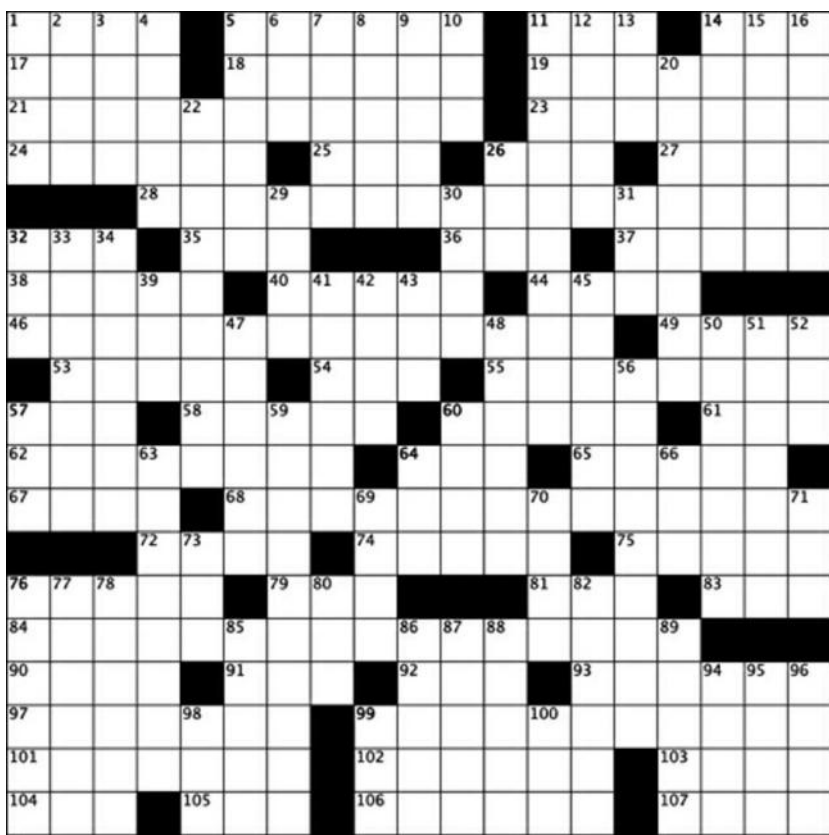
Pittsburgh puzzler

RUTH ANN DAILEY

ACROSS

- 1 100 C-notes
- 5 Aptly named metal polish brand
- 11 Scratch up
- 14 Droop
- 17 Ruthless downsizer
- 18 Culmination of Holy Week
- 19 Japanese printer brand
- 21 Illinois city Abraham Lincoln left by train on Feb. 11, 1861, for his inauguration
- 23 Political candidate, at times
- 24 Animal sound in "Old MacDonald"
- 25 Pitcher's metric
- 26 Brynner of stage and screen
- 27 Ghostly sound
- 28 Pittsburgh hotel where Lincoln addressed thousands and stayed on Feb. 14, 1861
- 32 Tourist's aid
- 35 Neighbor of Colo.
- 36 Where to find MA and PA
- 37 Trio + quintet
- 38 Tree-lined walkway
- 40 Make into law
- 44 Level or lathe
- 46 New York opera house where cast and audience sang "The Star-Spangled Banner" for him (Feb. 20, 1861)
- 49 Napoleon's isle of exile
- 53 Eye: prefix
- 54 "___ Kapital"
- 55 Big sports venue
- 57 "Eureka!"
- 58 Spreader of seeds
- 60 Voice above baritone
- 61 Classic Pontiac
- 62 King Lear's youngest
- 64 Moral lapse
- 65 Zagreb native, e.g.
- 67 Germany-based grocery chain
- 68 Famed detective who accompanied Lincoln from Philadelphia onward due to an assassination conspiracy
- 72 1960s satirist Mort
- 74 Puccini masterpiece
- 75 Davis of "Thelma and Louise"
- 76 1980s Surgeon General C. Everett and kin
- 79 "___haw!"
- 81 Lone Star State sch.
- 83 Psychic's gift, briefly
- 84 Philadelphia site where Lincoln raised the first American flag with a 34th star (for Kansas) on Feb. 22, 1861
- 90 Wilson of "Midnight in Paris"
- 91 Fleur-de-___
- 92 Greek goddess of dawn
- 93 Trail mix bit
- 97 Yuletide toast
- 99 Site at the Capitol where Lincoln was sworn in on March 4, 1861
- 101 Munitions stockpile
- 102 Matador's foe
- 103 Prince Harry's alma mater
- 104 Christian grp. that observes Sabbath on Sat.
- 105 Unspecified amount

"FROM HOME TO CAPITOL, 85 STOPS"



- 106 Jump atop
- 107 Nevada casino city

DOWN

- 1 Australian isl. state
- 2 Business fair
- 3 Agrippina's son
- 4 Fairytale-telling brother
- 5 "Scram!," to Shakespeare
- 6 Battle of Britain grp.
- 7 From east of the Urals
- 8 "Shrek" author William
- 9 1965 Alabama march site
- 10 Chicago airport code
- 11 Adjustment, as in tone or pitch
- 12 "The Jungle Book" wolf
- 13 Bone in a cage?
- 14 Didn't take part
- 15 "Relax, cadet!"
- 16 Deep-red gem
- 20 Courtier in Greek legend with a symbolic sword
- 22 Only you
- 26 Word of consent
- 29 Toe the line
- 30 Rwandan people
- 31 It goes with boo, hoo or yoo
- 32 Barnyard bleat
- 33 Fifth element?
- 34 Picketeer's sign
- 39 Prof's address ender
- 41 Negotiator's refusal
- 42 In the distance
- 43 Ruler divs.
- 45 Time-teller's contraction
- 47 Cash, slangily
- 48 Picturesque
- 50 Named beneficiary
- 51 Clothing fasteners
- 52 "Te ___"
- 56 Outlet sale item, maybe
- 57 Obamacare, briefly
- 59 Haphazardly
- 60 Sign on a jar at a bar
- 63 Hand out
- 64 ___cone
- 66 Metal source
- 69 Suit to ___
- 70 "A bit of talcum/Is always walcum" poet
- 71 Brief downtime
- 73 Nile slitherer
- 76 Plains Indians
- 77 "Let's keep moving!"
- 78 Oil city of west Texas
- 80 Asner and Helms
- 82 Leave stranded
- 85 Cuban boy in 2000 headlines
- 86 Author Zora ___ Hurston
- 87 ___ rica
- 88 Legally prohibit
- 89 Soda bottle size
- 94 Construction spot
- 95 Pic to click
- 96 Taboo
- 98 De Armas of "Knives Out"
- 99 Unagi at a sushi bar
- 100 Old hand

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POLITICS PLAYBOOK

Centrists say GOP needs to win swing districts to retake House

By Stephanie Akin
CQ-Roll Call

WASHINGTON — Republican moderates have long been considered a dying breed in a party overtaken by the extremes of the tea party and Trumpism.

But even as the GOP embraces the far right in the post-Trump era, some Republicans see an overlooked opportunity to expand their ranks — in the center.

They point to moderate House Republicans in swing districts who were considered among the most vulnerable incumbents in the 2020 election but emerged with convincing victories that outpaced the top of the ticket. Those victories, along with wins from similarly minded Republicans who flipped seats held by Democrats, helped the GOP narrow the Democratic majority to the point that a net gain of five seats in 2022 would flip control of the chamber.

“That’s the profile of the candidate who will help us win the majority back,” said John Faso, who represented New York’s swingy 19th District from 2017 to 2019 and has since worked to increase support for center-right Republicans.

“We’re pretty maxed out on people who can win in red districts. What we need is people who can win in swing districts,” Mr. Faso said.

Mr. Faso is part of a group of former and current members and congressional staffers working to funnel donor support to center-right candidates in a handful of battleground districts through a super PAC, The Governing Majority Fund, that formed at the end of the 2020 cycle to support members of the center-right Republican Governance Group, an informal caucus in the House.

Formerly known as the Tuesday Group, the caucus sees itself as the governing wing of the party but has seen its influence wane in recent years. It does not have a formal roster, but many of the members its super PAC supported — including Republican Reps. John Katko of New York, Rodney Davis of Illinois and Jaime Herrera Beutler of Washington — were top Democratic targets in 2020.

Mr. Katko, for example, got nearly 9 percentage points more than now-former President Donald Trump in his district, while Ms. Herrera Beutler got almost 6 points more and Mr. Davis 4 points more, according to data compiled by Daily Kos Elections.

The group is also looking to flex its muscle in the new Congress, as Republicans willing to work on bipartisan legislation with the Biden administration see a new opportunity to increase their clout.

“Everyone is looking for authentic leadership,” Ms. Herrera Beutler said. “I



Anna Moneymaker/The New York Times
Reps. Adam Kinzinger, R-Ill., right, and Jaime Herrera Beutler R-Wash., who both voted to impeach former President Donald Trump, high-five each other at the Capitol in Washington on Jan. 13.

would wager nine times out of 10, voters, regardless how partisan they are, want to see you get something done. They don’t want you to come here and just be a Twitter star.”

Other political action committees have formed in recent weeks to support Republicans who have pushed back against the party’s embrace of Mr. Trump.

That includes the Country 1st super PAC founded by Illinois Rep. Adam Kinzinger last month to back candidates willing to push back against Mr. Trump’s influence on the party. Another group, the Republican Accountability Project, connected to neoconservative Bill Kristol, pledged \$50 million last month to Republicans who would work to “hold Trump accountable” for the Jan. 6 riots at the Capitol and support primary challengers to members it sees as the former president’s enablers.

It is too early to tell how much support such initiatives will have in the upcoming cycle, and they are up against strong headwinds. Democrats, who brush off efforts to reinforce the center right as “wishful thinking” from a fractured and rudderless GOP, are working to tie Republican moderates to the most extreme elements of their party.

And Mr. Trump’s own new Save America super PAC announced this month that it had raised \$31 million since forming in November. That money could be used to support Mr. Trump’s preferred candidates in primaries or to oppose the 10 Republicans who voted in favor of impeaching him, along with anyone else who attracts the former president’s ire. Some of the Republican House members who voted to impeach Mr. Trump — like Liz Cheney of Wyoming and Tom Rice of South Carolina — are far from moderates.

Republicans are quick to point out that there is a distinction between resistance to Trumpism and the traditional description of a GOP moderate as fiscally conservative, socially liberal and pragmatic about reaching

across the aisle to advance their legislative priorities.

“Over the past four years, we’ve confused what a conservative is versus what a moderate is, and we’ve basically reframed it all in Trump terms,” said Doug Heye, who was deputy chief of staff for former House Majority Leader Eric Cantor, R-Va., and communications director for the Republican National Committee.

“A moderate is defined now as anyone who is not in lock step with Trump; that has nothing to do with the issues,” Mr. Heye said. But it is clear that the Trump era posed a major threat to center-right members from suburban districts. Twenty-three of the 30 Republicans who lost their seats during the “blue wave” of the 2018 midterms were more moderate than the party’s mean, according to a Pew analysis.

The Governing Majority Fund found a donor base eager to support those members.

It raised \$1.5 million in a matter of months, much of it from construction unions and prolific Republican donors. The Laborers Union was the top donor, giving \$500,000, while a fund controlled by the carpenters union gave \$200,000 and the operating engineers \$100,000. Paul Singer, a hedge fund billionaire, gave \$200,000. Ronald Lauder, an heir to the Estee Lauder cosmetics company fortune, gave \$80,000. The Congressional Leadership Fund, a super PAC closely linked to House Republican leadership, gave almost \$96,000.

Most of that was spent on mailings and ads attacking the moderates’ Democratic opponents. More than \$439,000 was spent against Dana Balter, who opposed Mr. Katko in New York; \$305,000 against Betsy Dirksen Londrigan, who faced Mr. Davis in Illinois; nearly \$175,000 against Jon Hoadley, who faced Rep. Fred Upton in Michigan; and \$139,000 against Carolyn Long, who faced Ms. Herrera Beutler in Washington.

All of those Republican incumbents won re-election.

Apprenticeships to expand to new industries

By Daniel Moore
Post-Gazette Washington Bureau

WASHINGTON — Apprenticeships took the spotlight this month in Washington as the Biden administration and lawmakers moved to expand job training programs that have proven successful in the Pittsburgh region for years in construction and manufacturing but have failed to gain much traction in other industries.

President Joe Biden on Wednesday announced his support of creating nearly 1 million apprenticeship opportunities, with a focus on the recruitment of women, people of color and others who have often been excluded from such training programs.

Mr. Biden, meeting with labor union leaders in the Oval Office, also reinstated the National Advisory Committee on Apprenticeships — a group with members from unions, employers, community colleges and other institutions — to grow programs in the clean energy, technology and health care sectors.

The White House actions came two weeks after House lawmakers approved a bill authorizing \$3.5 billion over five years for apprenticeships. The support for apprenticeships — arrangements by which workers earn a salary as they take training courses and work shifts — is largely bipartisan, though disagreements about the programs’ structure divide the parties.

This month, House lawmakers approved the bill, called the National Apprenticeship Act of 2021, by a 247-173 vote, which included 28 Republicans joining all voting Democrats. The Democratic-controlled Senate is widely expected to take it up. And Mr. Biden officially endorsed that bill last week.

Rep. Conor Lamb, D-Mt. Lebanon, said Friday that the bill would back apprenticeships in sectors as

varied as technology, wine-making, tree-trimming and senior care. “It’s expanding access to more people in more professions, and that should help people from having to take on too much student debt.”

Among Pittsburgh-region Republicans, Reps. Guy Reschenthaler, R-Peters, and David McKinley, R-W.Va., voted for the bill. Reps. Mike Kelly, R-Butler; John Joyce, R-Blair; and Glenn Thompson, R-Centre, voted against it.

Opponents of the bill argued it effectively doubled down on a federally centralized program that “encourages union giveaways,” according to a statement from Republicans on the House Education and Labor Committee.

A spokeswoman for Mr. Thompson, who sits on that committee, said in a statement that the bill “falls short of meeting the needs of workers, limits employers and forces applicants into predetermined programs set by the federal government.”

Mr. Joyce said in a statement the bill would “reverse improvements made under the Trump administration, embolden union bosses, stifle workers, and kill jobs rather than benefit hard-working Americans.”

Republicans supported the Trump administration’s approach to create an entirely new system of “industry-recognized” apprenticeship programs that would not be registered with the U.S. Department of Labor. Those programs would be registered with a network of, essentially, clusters of industry-led accreditation bodies that would maintain flexible standards and perform oversight.

Construction trades in the Pittsburgh region — which fund and manage apprenticeships through a partnership of companies and more than a dozen trade unions — sought an exclusion from the

Trump administration program, arguing it wouldn’t provide the same scrutiny as federal apprenticeship programs.

Last week, Mr. Biden reversed the Trump administration’s apprenticeship program because it required “fewer quality standards than registered apprenticeship programs” and failed to meet wage standards. He ordered the Labor Department not to support any such programs that had been created.

Mr. Reschenthaler, in a statement, said he had visited many of the Pittsburgh region’s apprenticeship centers. Those programs “ensure projects like the Shell Cracker Plant and other critical energy and infrastructure developments are completed on time, on budget and in line with safety requirements,” he stated.

According to federal figures, 94% of those who complete registered apprenticeships are employed upon completion, earning an average starting wage of above \$70,000 yearly.

The Democrats’ bill, meanwhile, has garnered support from major trade groups, including the American Petroleum Institute and North America’s Building Trades Unions.

Sean McGarvey, president of the building trades group, said in a statement that the registered apprenticeship program — in which his group’s unions invest nearly \$1.7 billion a year to fund a network of more than 1,600 training centers — produces the “safest, most highly skilled and productive construction craft workers.”

“We know the registered model works,” he said, adding that the bill would allow it to “not only remain the gold standard in U.S. construction workforce training but will also open pathways for more industries to build productive and highly skilled workforces.”



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U.N. urged to seek pause of conflicts in virus hotspots

The Associated Press

UNITED NATIONS — Britain circulated a draft resolution to the U.N. Security Council on Friday demanding that all warring parties immediately institute a “sustained humanitarian pause” to enable people in conflict areas to be vaccinated for COVID-19.

The proposed resolution reiterates the council’s July 1 demand for “a general and immediate cessation of hostilities” in major conflicts from Syria and Yemen to Central African Republic, Mali, Sudan and Somalia. The appeal was first made by U.N. Secretary-General Antonio Guterres on March 23.

The draft “emphasizes the need for solidarity, equity, and efficacy and invites donation of vaccine doses from developed economies to low- and middle-income countries and other countries in need, including through the COVAX Facility,” an ambitious World Health Organization project to buy and deliver coronavirus vaccines for the world’s poorest people.

The British draft stresses that “equitable access to affordable COVID-19 vaccines, certified as safe and

efficacious, is essential to end the pandemic.”

It would recognize “the role of extensive immunization against COVID-19 as a global public good for health in preventing, containing, and stopping transmission, in order to bring the pandemic to an end.”

The draft, obtained by The Associated Press, follows up on British Foreign Secretary Dominic Raab’s appeal to the 15-member Security Council on Wednesday to adopt a resolution calling for local cease-fires in conflict zones to allow the delivery of COVID-19 vaccines.

Britain says more than 160 million people are at risk of being excluded from coronavirus vaccinations because they live in countries engulfed in conflict and instability.

“Cease-fires have been used to vaccinate the most vulnerable communities in the past,” Mr. Raab said. “There’s no reason why we can’t.”

At Wednesday’s meeting, Mr. Guterres criticized the “wildly uneven and unfair” distribution of the vaccines, saying 10 countries have administered 75% of all shots and demanding a global effort to get all people vaccinated as soon as possible.

What’s safe after COVID-19 vaccination? Don’t shed masks yet

The Associated Press

You’re fully vaccinated against the coronavirus — now what? Don’t expect to shed your mask and get back to normal activities right away.

That’s going to be a disappointment, if not a shock, to many people.

In Miami, 81-year-old Noemi Caraballo got her second dose on Tuesday and is looking forward to seeing friends, resuming fitness classes and running errands after nearly a year of being extremely cautious, even ordering groceries online.

“Her line is, ‘I’m tired of talking to the cats and the parrots,’” said her daughter Susan Caraballo. “She wants to do things and talk to people.”

But the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention hasn’t yet changed its guidelines: At least for now, people should follow the same rules as everybody else about wearing a mask, keeping a 6-foot distance and avoiding crowds — even after they’ve gotten their second vaccine dose.

Vaccines in use so far require two doses, and experts say especially don’t let your guard down after the first dose.

“You’re asking a very logical question,” Dr. Anthony Fauci, the top U.S. in-



Alexandra Wimley/Post-Gazette

Ritsu Shimizu, of Allegheny West, reacts in excitement after receiving her first dose of the COVID-19 vaccine Saturday at a clinic at PNC Park on the North Shore.

fectious-disease expert, responded when a 91-year-old California woman recently asked if she and her vaccinated friends could resume their mah-jongg games.

In that webcast exchange, Dr. Fauci only could point to the CDC’s recommendations, which so far are mum about exceptions for vaccinated people getting together. “Hang on,” he told the woman, saying he expected updates to the guidelines as more people get the coveted shots.

What experts also need to learn: The vaccines are highly effective at preventing symptomatic COVID-19, especially severe illness and death — but no one yet

knows how well they block spread of the coronavirus.

It’s great if the vaccine means someone who otherwise would have been hospitalized instead just has the sniffles, or even no symptoms. But “the looming question,” Dr. Fauci said during a White House coronavirus response briefing last week, is whether a person infected despite vaccination can still, unwittingly, infect someone else.

Studies are underway to find out, and hints are starting to emerge. Dr. Fauci pointed to recent research from Spain showing the more coronavirus an infected person harbors — what’s called the viral load

— the more infectious they are. That’s not surprising, as it’s true with other illnesses.

Some preliminary findings from Israel have suggested people infected after the first vaccine dose, when they’re only partially protected, had smaller viral loads than unvaccinated people who got infected. That’s encouraging if the findings hold up. Israel has vaccinated a large fraction of its population and scientists worldwide are watching how the outbreak responds as those inoculations increase.

Also crucial is tracking whether the vaccines protect against new, mutated versions of the virus that are spreading rapidly in some countries, added Dr. Walter Orenstein, an infectious disease expert at Emory University. He has been vaccinated and is scrupulously following the CDC guidelines.

What if the fully vaccinated are exposed to someone who’s infected? The CDC did recently ease those rules: No quarantine as long as the vaccinated person shows no symptoms and it has been at least two weeks but not longer than three months since their second dose.

Getting on an airplane? Vaccinated or not, the CDC still urges essential travel only.

Live music industry: Among the first to close, last to reopen in pandemic

VENUES, FROM A-1

Mr. Esser’s story is closer to the rule than the exception in the live music industry, which was one of the last to turn on the lights.

The live music industry is not OK by any stretch, said Liz Berlin and Mike Speranzo, who own Mr. Smalls in Millvale.

Billboard is keeping a list of venues across the country that have fallen victim to the pandemic, with the number inching toward 100. They include such storied venues as the Copacabana in New York City; Threadgill’s in Austin, Texas; and The Satellite (formerly Spaceland) in Los Angeles.

Also on that list are two long-loved Pittsburgh venues: the Rex Theater on the South Side, a home base for the jam-rock scene, among many other styles; and the Brillbox in Bloomfield, which catered to indie rock and punk.

Before closing the Rex in September, Ben Penigar, of Grey Area Productions, did everything possible to keep the employees paid and the door opened, including selling Rex T-shirts and a personal collection of prized memorabilia. It’s anyone’s guess whether the former vaudeville theater will open again as a live venue, become another dance club or just remain dark for a while.

The small venues here that feature national and regional artists and hope to avoid that Billboard list include Mr. Smalls; the newly opened Roxian in McKees Rocks and the newly reopened Thunderbird Cafe in Lawrenceville (both owned by John Pergal); Club Cafe and The Smiling Moose on the South Side; Mr. Roboto Project in Bloomfield; Spirit in Lawrenceville; Jergel’s Rhythm Grille in Marshall; and the Craffhouse in Whitehall.

Cattivo, an indie/punk/metal venue in Lawrenceville with two stages, is on the real estate market for \$1 million with the note, “Lots of potential for condos, offices, brewery, restaurant, bar, etc. Build to suit.”

Help on the way?

Help has been slow to come, but it’s on the way in the form of grants available through the Save Our Stages Act, a bill that was signed into law in late December as part of Congress’ COVID-19 relief package.

The \$15 billion appropriation package was cham-



Courtesy of Spirit

Spirit co-owners Thomas Barr, left, and Leigh Yock, right, with bar manager L.G. Swanson are trying to survive the pandemic through loans and a six-month forbearance on the mortgage.

pioned by the National Independent Venue Association, which was created within a month of the start of the pandemic. The money will be administered by the U.S. Small Business Administration as part of the Shuttered Venue Operators Grant for live venue operators/promoters, theatrical producers, performing arts organization operators, motion picture theater operators and more. Applications for grants of up to \$10 million are being accepted this spring.

“We’ve got two stages here that could sure use some saving,” Leigh Yock, co-owner of Spirit, said in an email. “From the looks of it, if we are fortunate enough to apply and qualify for the funds, it will be a tremendous help in covering our operating costs while we continue to keep people safe and operate at a limited capacity.”

Spirit, housed in a former Moose lodge, has been able

to survive through various loans, including Paycheck Protection Program loans, as well as six-month forbearance on the mortgage.

“Between those means, cutting our staff from 40 co-workers to seven, and hustling our ass off to up our delivery, takeout and bagel game, we have been able to hold steady,” Ms. Yock said.

During the warmer months, Spirit generated some revenue through outdoor dining and socially distanced weddings.

Saving Smalls

When national publications write about the cultural assets of Pittsburgh, they invariably mention Mr. Smalls, the diamond-in-the-rough that opened in 2002 in the 20,000-square-foot former St. Ann’s Catholic Church in Millvale. It was a labor of love for Pittsburgh’s pre-eminent music couple — Ms. Berlin, of Rusted Root, and

her husband, Mr. Speranzo, a one-time sponsored skateboarder and member of the bands Crisis Car and Out of the Blue.

After the losses of Graffiti and Club Laga in the early 2000s, it did not take long for Mr. Smalls to become the region’s most active club venue. Eric Church is among the arena acts that love to come to town and brag about how they once played Mr. Smalls.

To bring the sprawling facility — with its three stages, recording studio and skate park — to life, the couple went deep into debt.

“Prior to the pandemic, we had just gotten to the point for the first time since we started Mr. Smalls where we had no debt and had a chance of becoming profitable,” the couple noted in a joint email.

Not having the deep pockets of the North Shore’s Stage AE — which is owned

by the Rooney family and the Columbus-based Continental Real Estate Cos. — when the pandemic hit, they had to take out an Economic Injury Disaster Loan from the Small Business Administration to cover monthly expenses of \$10,000 to \$12,000.

“It’s amazing what it costs to maintain an empty building,” they said, adding that “all of that loan money is long gone.”

In the late summer, they opened Mr. Smalls Cafe for a few months, but the coronavirus spiked during the holidays, so they shut it down. It was operating at a loss anyway. They also did a Mr. Smalls Street Series on their loading dock.

“This wasn’t a money-maker, either,” they noted, “but we felt it was important for morale. It was a way to unite and provide opportunity to the music community, our staff and our patrons, and that for us sometimes is way more important than the financial outlook.”

They hope to revive the cafe and Street Series in the spring and also find a safe way to present dinner theater-style events with local artists for 125 people in the 800-capacity theater.

While they consider the Shuttered Venue Operators Act a nice “win” for the industry, they aren’t banking on it.

“At this point,” they said, “we are acting as if we are not going to get the SVO grant, because who knows how long it will actually take or what issues will come up along the way. We can’t count those chickens before they’re hatched, and the potential of complications or fraud by opportunists or the program running out of money is high. Of course, if we do receive an SVO grant, it will have a huge impact on our ability to survive and to prepare the property for when full scale shows can begin again.”

Opening up

Out in the suburbs, Jergel’s and Craffhouse have waded back into live music, with local artists and cover bands playing socially distanced shows at one-third capacity.

Among those to play there was The Borstal Boys, a band that was also involved in planning the virtual Save Our Stages Live shows to support indie venues.

“Jergel’s was definitely safe, if you ask me,” said bassist Rocky Lamonde. “You had to stay at your table, wear a mask coming in or going to the bathrooms. Playing was fun but still not as cool as when people are

up in front dancing, so it does feel a little weird when people are there but you can’t really see them because they are at the tables.”

In March, Jergel’s gets Raul Malo of The Mavericks playing to 200 people at the 600-capacity venue. Promoter Brian Drusky, who did the first drive-in concerts last summer, is also bringing Samantha Fish to Jergel’s in April and Adelita’s Way to the Craffhouse in May, among other shows.

Like Mr. Smalls, Spirit will wait for warmer weather before even thinking of presenting music. “We’re going to play it month to month and wait until we are confident that we are not endangering our staff or the health of our community,” Ms. Yock said.

Spirit might kick off its outdoor patio season in April with a socially distanced Merch Market, where artists can set up a table to sell their merchandise.

Mr. Esser plans to present some outdoor music, as he did last summer at the Syria Shrine Center in Harmar, but is willing to wait as long as the fall to wake up Moon-dog’s.

“I don’t want to open,” he said, “because I don’t want you or anybody else to come here and contract coronavirus and go home and give it to their mom or their wife or their kids, and they die or they get really sick. I don’t want to be responsible for that. You know what Moon-dog’s is like. It’s got that small low ceiling. It’s the perfect place to get it.”

Once people are vaccinated and venues get the green light, Mr. Esser plans to be there keeping the blues alive.

“I’m probably not going to open till the fall,” he said. “I thought about selling it; I had somebody look at it. And, honestly, I watched this thing that had this 89-year-old belly dancer and they interviewed her, and she said, ‘You can never quit doing something that you love.’ And I was like, ‘You know what? I got to see this through.’”

“I had cancer two years ago. I survived that. I survived Lyme disease. I made it through fires. I made it through Dom DiSilvio and Tony DiNardo,” he said, hilariously referencing the old Oakland club war between The Decade and Graffiti. “I survived all this [stuff]. I’m not going to let the pandemic take me down.”

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Debris falls during emergency landing near Denver

The Associated Press

BROOMFIELD, Colo. — Debris from a United Airlines plane fell onto Denver suburbs during an emergency landing on Saturday after one of its engines suffered a catastrophic failure and rained pieces of the engine casing on a neighborhood, where it narrowly missed a home.

The plane landed safely, and nobody aboard or on the ground was reported hurt, authorities said. The National Transportation Safety Board said late Saturday that it had opened an investigation into the incident.

The Federal Aviation Administration said in a statement that the Boeing 777-200 returned to the Denver International Airport after experiencing a right-engine failure shortly after takeoff. Flight 328 was flying from Denver to Honolulu when the incident occurred, the agency said.

United said in a separate statement that there were 231 passengers and 10 crew on board. All passengers were to be re-booked on a new flight to Hawaii, the airline said.

The Broomfield Police Department posted photos on Twitter showing large, circular pieces of debris leaning against a house in the suburb about 25 miles north of Denver. Police are asking that anyone injured come forward.

Passengers recounted a

terrifying ordeal that began to unfold shortly after the plane full of vacationers took off.

The aircraft was almost at cruising altitude and the captain was giving an announcement over the intercom when a large explosion rocked the cabin, accompanied by a bright flash.

"The plane started shaking violently, and we lost altitude and we started going down," said David Delucia, who was sitting directly across the aisle from the side with the failed engine. "When it initially happened, I thought we were done. I thought we were going down."

Mr. Delucia and his wife took their wallets containing their driver's licenses and put them in their pockets so that "in case we did go down, we could be ID'd," said Mr. Delucia, who was still shaken up as he waited to board another flight for Honolulu.

On the ground, witnesses also heard the explosion and were scared for those on board.

Tyler Thal, who lives in the area, told The Associated Press that he was out for a walk with his family when he noticed a large commercial plane flying unusually low and took out his phone to film it.

"While I was looking at it, I saw an explosion and then the cloud of smoke and some debris falling from it. It was just like a speck in the sky, and as I'm watching that, I'm telling my family what I just saw and then we heard the

explosion," he said in a phone interview. "The plane just kind of continued on, and we didn't see it after that."

Video posted on Twitter showed the engine fully engulfed in flames as the plane flew through the air.

Kirby Klements was inside with his wife when they heard a huge booming sound, he said. A few seconds later, the couple saw a massive piece of debris hurtle past their window and into the bed of Mr. Klements' truck, crushing the cab and pushing the vehicle into the dirt.

He estimated the circular engine cowling at 15 feet in diameter. Fine pieces of the fiberglass insulation used in the airplane engine fell from the sky "like ash" for about 10 minutes, he said, and several large chunks of insulation landed in his backyard.

"If it had been 10 feet different, it would have landed right on top of the house," he said in a phone interview with the AP. "And if anyone had been in the truck, they would have been dead."

Aviation safety experts said the plane appeared to have suffered an uncontained and catastrophic engine failure. Such an event is extremely rare and happens when huge spinning discs inside the engine suffer some sort of failure and breach the armored casing around the engine that is designed to contain the damage, said John Cox, an aviation safety expert and retired airline pilot who runs an aviation



Andy Cross/The Denver Post via AP
A North Metro firefighter walks past a large piece of an airplane engine in the front yard of a home Saturday in Broomfield, Colo.

safety consulting firm called Safety Operating Systems.

"That unbalanced disk has a lot of force in it, and it's spinning at several thousand rotations per minute ... and when you have that much centrifugal force, it has to go somewhere," he said in a phone interview.

Pilots practice how to deal with such an event frequently and would have immediately shut off anything flammable in the engine, including fuel and hydraulic fluid, using a single switch, Mr. Cox said.

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Jeremy Selwyn/Associated Press

Britain's Prime Minister Boris Johnson launches the U.K.-hosted COP26 U.N. Climate Summit on Feb. 4 in London. World leaders breathed a sigh of relief when President Joe Biden vowed to work with Western allies.

Europe stresses cooperation, applauds Biden's approach

The Associated Press

BERLIN — Collective sighs of relief could be heard from many European capitals on Saturday after President Joe Biden made clear in his first major foreign policy address since taking office that he rejected the "America First" and transactional approach of his predecessor and urged cooperation among Western allies.

At the same time, politicians and observers cautioned that some of the sources of tension from Donald Trump's presidency remained and that the allies have serious work ahead of them, once Mr. Biden's honeymoon is over.

"Biden gave exactly the speech that many Europeans wanted to hear — an America that pats you on the shoulders, that doesn't criticize or demand," wrote Germany's influential Der Spiegel magazine after Mr. Biden on Friday became the first American president to appear at the Munich Security Conference, albeit in virtual form.

"Will it stay that way? For the moment, it was certainly the right message: It was primarily intended to patch up the injuries of the Trump years," the magazine said in an analysis.

The annual Munich Security Conference has long been heralded as a gathering where world leaders are able to share and debate ideas in an informal setting.

Mr. Biden's speech highlighted the agenda for this year's conference, which was held online due to the coronavirus pandemic.

In his keynote address, Mr. Biden assured other

participants, including French President Emmanuel Macron, German Chancellor Angela Merkel and British Prime Minister Boris Johnson, that the United States was "determined to reengage with Europe, to consult with you, to earn back our position of trusted leadership."

Over the last four years, the NATO alliance was shaken by Mr. Trump's questioning of its relevance and his suggestion that the United States might not come to the aid of members who failed to meet pledges to commit 2% of gross domestic product to defense spending.

But Mr. Biden made no mention of Washington's opposition to the Germany-Russia joint Nord Stream 2 pipeline project and steered away from criticizing Germany and others for failing to meet NATO defense spending goals. Instead, he emphasized Washington's commitment to Article 5 of the NATO founding treaty, which states that an attack on one alliance member is considered an attack on all.

It is now important for Germany and the rest of Europe to seize upon the renewed U.S. willingness to engage in dialogue and work hard toward resolving areas of disagreement, said Juergen Hardt, the foreign policy spokesman for Ms. Merkel's parliamentary group.

"With his speech, Joe Biden reached out to Europe," Mr. Hardt said.

The coming months must be used intensively to resolve numerous open issues, such as punitive tariffs, extra-territorial sanctions on Nord Stream 2, or digital tax," he said.

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Personal care homes hit by deadly virus outbreaks

HOMES, FROM A-1

While much of the nation has focused on the crisis in nursing homes, the virus has left a devastating impact on personal care homes in Pennsylvania, leaving hundreds of people dead in a series of outbreaks since November that have been largely unknown to the public, the Pittsburgh Post-Gazette has found.

With far less regulation than nursing facilities, personal care homes have emerged as a new flashpoint for the disease since November, with cases and deaths that have exploded in facilities during the height of the pandemic — increasing at a rate triple that of nursing homes.

The risks in some of the homes, which are licensed by the state but not required to provide medical staff, have presented an entirely new set of challenges to public health officials, even as vaccines are being administered.

In just nine weeks at the beginning of the surge, the death toll in personal care homes more than doubled, from 586 in early November to 1,279 on Jan. 8, according to data obtained by the Post-Gazette. As of Feb. 16, the overall fatality count would soar to 1,548 across the state. And that is likely a large undercount because more than one-third of homes do not regularly report data to the state.

“Those numbers are very disturbing,” said Pam Walz, supervising attorney for Community Legal Services, a Philadelphia nonprofit that advocates for seniors. She said she was unaware of the statewide increase until the Post-Gazette showed it to her because the state had not previously made the figures public.

Created by the state 40 years ago, personal care homes were never envisioned as facilities for fragile elders. Rather, they were initially planned for people who were in relatively good health and mobile and who needed help with daily chores and perhaps some minimal physical assistance.

Serving frail population

As the number of personal care homes increased over the past three decades — to 1,151 today across the state — so did the ages and frail conditions of the people in those homes, increasing the risk of severe illness when COVID-19 struck.

That change occurred at first because there was legal and political pressure on states to allow people with medical conditions into personal care and assisted living homes, rather than forcing them into nursing homes, said Eric Carlson, directing attorney for Justice in Aging, a Los Angeles advocacy group.

Some residents even mounted legal challenges to the state restrictions by citing the Americans with Disabilities Act.

Then, there was the consumer demand, Mr. Carlson said. Personal care homes “feel better,” he said. Residents “prefer the less medical environment when that’s available.”

As a result, many of the outbreaks in Pennsylvania’s personal care homes — with an average of 40 people, about one-third the size of the typical nursing home — have been every bit as pervasive and deadly as those in nursing homes, records and interviews show.

As the leader of a state-organized collaborative, Dr. David Nace, UPMC’s chief medical officer for senior communities, said he saw a distinct pattern in the homes when he and fellow group members were responding to outbreaks in long-term-care facilities.

“Early on, I think we started to see more nursing facilities, and then we started to see more personal care and assisted living as the months wore on,” he said.

Mrs. Delewski, who worked in Pittsburgh



Andrew Rush/Post-Gazette

Ted Sobek holds the wedding photo of his mother, Myrle Delewski, at his office in Bridgeville. Mr. Sobek chose Oakleaf Personal Care Home in Baldwin to take care of his mother because administrators emphasized that the personal care home had no cases of COVID-19. But an outbreak of the disease would eventually kill Mrs. Delewski and a dozen others living at Oakleaf.



Provided

Myrle Delewski, 89, died Jan. 2 after contracting COVID-19 at Oakleaf Personal Care Home in Baldwin.

Public Schools cafeterias for 40 years, found out she had tested positive for the virus on Dec. 11, a couple of weeks after the first Oakleaf resident came down with it. For the next month, she was in and out of the hospital battling COVID-19 before she died Jan. 2.

“It was hard,” Mr. Sobek said of losing his mother, whom he talked to nearly every day.

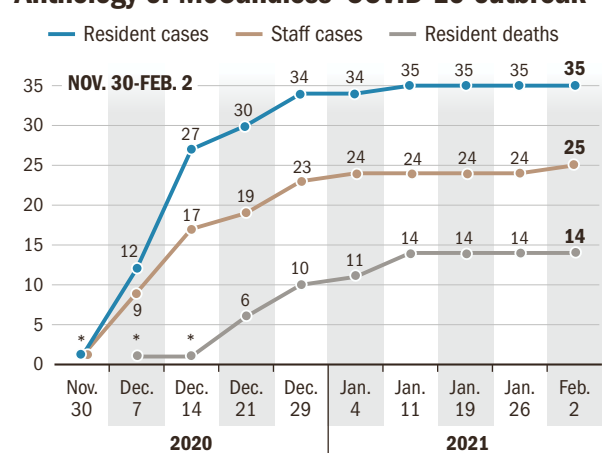
Of the roughly 55 residents who lived at Oakleaf, Mrs. Delewski was one of 36 who came down with COVID-19 — meaning 65% of residents tested positive — and among 13 who succumbed to the disease.

The question being asked by experts, advocates and families of loved ones who died: Why did personal care homes, which avoided much of the devastation wrought by COVID-19 for so long, develop so many cases and deaths so late in the pandemic after the steps to prevent the disease’s spread had become so much better understood?

Some state officials and experts say the rise in cases was simply the result of the vast spread of the disease that took place in the fall and winter. They note that research in the pandemic showed a strong statistical relationship between a high number of COVID-19 cases in the counties where nursing homes are located and the outbreaks that took place inside the facilities.

“We know that community spread of COVID-19 is directly related to outbreaks in facilities,” Keara Klinepeter, senior adviser to the state’s secretary of health, said in a Jan. 13 online news conference when asked about the surge in cases in personal care homes. “As cases have surged this fall to levels

Anthology of McCandless’ COVID-19 outbreak



* Indicates there was one to four cases or deaths; the state does not list a specific number less than five.

Sources: Pennsylvania Department of Human Services

Research: Sean Hamill
Graphic: Ed Yozwick/Post-Gazette

that, on some days were triple or more of what we were seeing in the spring, I think it is understandable that we would see the virus getting into long-term care facilities, still.”

But families, advocates, other experts and officials who dealt with the outbreaks as part of a state collaborative network, say the surge laid bare flaws in the state’s personal care home system, which receives far less government oversight than nursing homes.

Less of a medical model

The federal government has no authority over personal care and assisted living homes, and the state’s Department of Human Services, which oversees the 1,151 personal care homes and 60 assisted living facilities, has just 45 inspectors to cover all of them. By comparison, the state Department of Health, which oversees nursing homes alongside the federal government, has 115 inspectors for

693 nursing homes.

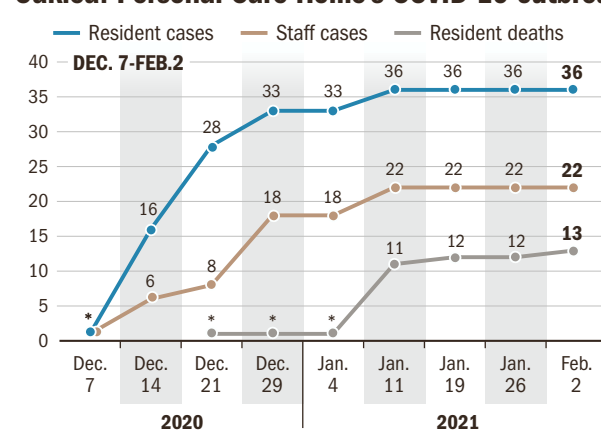
As a result, there are fewer inspections of personal care homes compared with nursing homes: Just 2,000 for the state’s personal care homes in 2019, compared with 5,300 for the state’s nursing homes.

The state’s regulations for personal care homes also aren’t nearly as rigorous. For example, there are no infection control regulations for personal care homes — critical markers that can make a difference in whether a facility is overtaken by the virus.

“It’s less of a clinical medical model,” said Dr. David Kelley, chief medical officer for the state DHS’s Office of Medical Assistance Programs. “That’s the way they were set up.”

During the pandemic, the state and federal government launched an entire series of COVID-19 inspections that looked for infection control breakdowns in nursing homes, citing them for violations and ordering

Oakleaf Personal Care Home’s COVID-19 outbreak

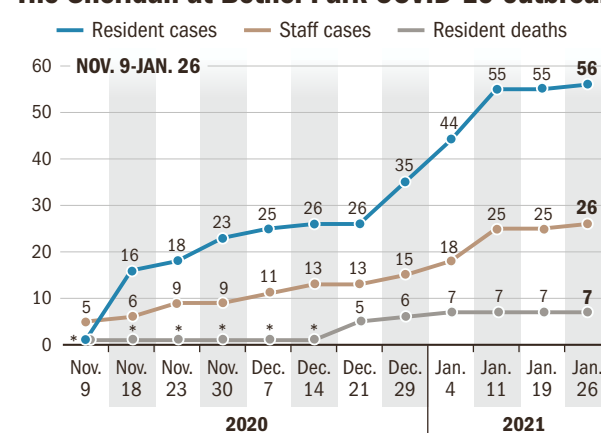


* Indicates there was one to four cases or deaths; the state does not list a specific number less than five.

Sources: Pennsylvania Department of Human Services

Research: Sean Hamill
Graphic: Ed Yozwick/Post-Gazette

The Sheridan at Bethel Park COVID-19 outbreak



* Indicates there was one to four cases or deaths; the state does not list a specific number less than five.

Sources: Pennsylvania Department of Human Services

Research: Sean Hamill
Graphic: Ed Yozwick/Post-Gazette

them to fix the problems when they occurred.

Because personal care homes were not subject to infection control regulations, the state’s regional collaboratives spent a lot of time helping them with infection prevention, which was part of the COVID-19 guidelines issued to all facilities in the state, Dr. Kelley said.

Despite the virus racing through personal care homes, they are not required to have licensed nurses on staff. As a result, many of the homes had no one inside with the expertise to impose infection prevention practices that were critical in staving off the disease.

“We’ve been concerned about personal care homes all the way through the pandemic because their staff are not trained to handle medical situations generally,” said Ms. Walz, of Community Legal Services.

The staff at the southwestern regional collaborative carried out 74 rapid responses to outbreaks in personal care homes, most of them in November and December. Dr. Nace said during those visits there was a visible difference

with those homes that provided medical staff.

“We tended to see better coordination and better outcomes,” he said.

However, even some of those facilities with nurses on staff had large outbreaks.

Relaxing preventive measures

Multiple families of victims contacted by the Post-Gazette, like Mr. Sobek, cited a breakdown in COVID-19 prevention protocols in the personal care homes that began in late summer when case numbers statewide were declining significantly.

Some homes that had banned in-person dining began to allow residents to eat together or watch television together in common areas, for example.

“The same rules [about COVID-19 prevention] were not as strictly applied to” personal care homes, said Dr. Nicole Osevala, a geriatrician at Penn State Health’s Hershey Medical Center, who oversaw the regional collaborative in the north central region.

SEE HOMES, PAGE A-7

Strategies to secure a vaccine appointment online

By Geoffrey A. Fowler
The Washington Post

Being a computer whiz ought to be the last thing standing between the life-saving COVID-19 vaccine and eligible arms.

Yet wrestling with confusing, overlapping vaccine websites has become a major source of stress for American seniors and the family and friends helping them get shots. In places where supply is low, people are trying appointment sites 20 or 30 times — only to watch bookings vanish because they moved too slow.

Some volunteer appointment finders and people who look for spare doses now call themselves “vaccine hunters.”

“This is sort of an obsession,” said Dasha Hermosilla, of Arlington, Va., who has learned appointment systems across multiple states and helped 30 people get shots. “They are struggling and are always amazed and thrilled when they wake up to texts and messages that I got them an appointment.”

Dominique Rychlik, of Bethesda, Md., said someone helped her children, who work at grocery stores, get appointments — so she wanted to pay it forward.

“I can move very quickly to secure an appointment, much more so than the elderly who are prioritized,” she said. “I think it is neat how people are stepping up.”

Here is some of your best advice for how to work appointment systems for yourself or someone else.

Make it a team effort

Some vaccination centers release appointments in a randomized lottery system, so it can be useful to have multiple people trying simultaneously, said Philadelphia resident Carol, who asked to be identified only by her first name.

“It really helped to have multiple people log on to the site to increase the chances that one of us would be assigned a number lower than the number of appointments to be assigned,” she said. “We connected by phone to help answer any of the website questions about health conditions and recent exposure. When we secured the appointment for the eligible



Mary Altaffer/Associated Press

Pharmacist Diana Swiga fills a syringe with the Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 vaccine Jan. 31 at a vaccination site in New York. Wrestling with confusing websites has become a stumbling block for many Americans who just want to schedule their shot. So-called vaccine hunters recommend a team effort, various technical tricks and good old-fashioned persistence.

person in question, I could not stop crying with relief.”

For Jina Noland, of Fairfax County, Va., getting an appointment for her mom required efforts by herself, her brother, her husband and her mother.

“You need multiple people calling and constantly checking websites. You need persistence. You need to try all options and not just focus on one thing,” she said. “As a member of Generation X, I was able to use all my skills from getting concert tickets back in the day.”

Don't get slowed by the details

Across many appointment systems, time is of the essence.

“Once you get a tentative appointment — and are filling in the form online — skip anything that is not required (emergency contact, primary physician). It is imperative that you act quickly — or your spot will be gone,” said Kim Murphy, of Oak Beach, N.Y. “I’ve done 14 elderly relatives and neighbors so far, and this seems to help.”

It’s risky, but Arlington volunteer Ms. Hermosilla said she has discovered many appointment systems don’t care if some of the information you enter upfront is inaccurate.

“Either have it handy or ... make it up. That may sound terrible, but when in doubt I make up information,” she said. “If I have a slot in front of me, I’d rather throw any numbers in there and see if it takes so I can snag the appointment.”

Select later dates

Melissa Daddio, of Takoma Park, Md., suggests not battling with everyone else to nab the earliest appointments. “Once you get the calendar open for scheduling, it’s like when you get access to Ticketmaster to select your seats for a hot concert,” she said. “Everyone is going to try to first click on the first time slot they see available for a particular day (like everyone first clicks on the front row seats). Scroll to later, more random time slots to ensure you’re not selecting the same slot hundreds of others are clicking at the same time as you.”

Spread out your chances

Since there’s no centralized vaccine system, your likelihood of nabbing an appointment increases with each additional route you try.

“Register for multiple sites,” recommended Jim Hoffman, of Westminster, Colo. “I registered with seven health care providers.”

Master the website ‘refresh’

Reloading websites is often a critical step to discovering new appointment inventory. But Merrit Jacobs, of Lake Worth, Fla., said some people are confused on how to do that.

“The other thing that is critical ... is the use of the refresh feature,” he said. “Most older people think that you need to close the browser and open it up again when you say refresh. So I provide an image of what the refresh symbol looks like.”

In most web browsers, it looks like a circle with an arrow inside.

Or, you could save yourself the clicks by making websites reload themselves.

“For webpages that require constant refresh to see new availability, consider using an auto-refresh extension that allows you to set the refresh interval,” suggested Liliana Bastian, of Austin, Texas. She used Easy Auto Refresh for Chrome. “Just watch for any changes in availability that may interest you.”

Be persistent

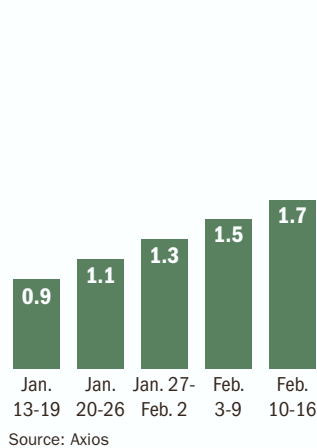
“Don’t give up on a session right away, even if the website crashes/freezes,” said Bill Citara, of Sarasota, Fla. “I got my first appointment after the Charlotte

Vaccination progress, projected deliveries

VACCINE DAILY DOSES

7-day average daily doses administered from Jan. 13 through Feb. 16, according to the White House weekly vaccination progress report displayed at the Feb. 17 briefing.

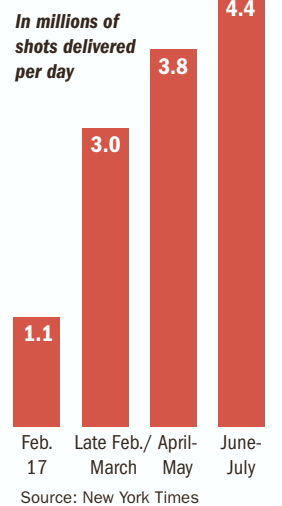
In millions of shots given per day



Source: Axios

VACCINE DAILY DELIVERY

Projected daily pace of vaccine delivery based on commitments by Moderna and Pfizer and an estimate of Johnson & Johnson’s pace starting in April.



Source: New York Times

James Hillston/Post-Gazette

County website crashed, then came back live a half-hour or so later.”

Persistence paid off for Mr. Citara.

“It took me several hours of trying on three different days before I could even get into the system, despite having several browser windows open a good 15 minutes prior to the site going live,” he said.

Don't totally give up on Facebook

Facebook is a hotbed of vaccine misinformation, but Deborah Vogel, of South Pasadena, Calif., said she still finds it useful.

“The resource that most helped me, amid all the others you discussed, were the dreaded Facebook neighborhood groups,” she said. “I joined as many as I could stand and got tons of info. One group had an MD who seemed to have inside sources on where the next availability would be.”

Make your own alerts

To help her parents in Texas, Amy Jones, of Washington, realized she needed better information.

“I learned how to change my Twitter settings to get a phone notification whenever the Houston Health Department tweeted,” she said.

“I also discovered that I

could install an add-in on [Google] Chrome that would monitor webpages for changes,” added Ms. Jones. “I used Distill.io. I found eight to 10 vaccine sign-up pages and monitored them. Every time something changed, an alarm would sound on my computer. Lots of false alarms, but eventually success!”

Other services vaccine hunters are using to automatically check sites for changes include Visualping and the Chrome extension Web Alert. (I haven’t personally tested all these services, so use with caution.)

And tech-savvy people like Noah Marcus from Berkeley Heights, N.J., set up systems that also help others.

“I have created two Twitter bots for two counties in New Jersey (Union and Bergen) and am putting together a third (for Essex County) that tweet whenever new appointments are released by the county,” he said. He noted the Union bot is currently out of commission because the county added a Captcha to its website.

“This started out as an effort to get my partner’s 74-year-old dad the vaccine,” Mr. Marcus added, “but I immediately knew everyone should have access to this information.”

Death toll climbing in Pa.’s personal care homes

HOMES, FROM A-6

She said the surge in outbreaks was not only sparked by the community spread of the disease, but it was also fanned by having residents come and go, not having medical expertise on-site, and not regularly doing surveillance testing to catch the disease as soon as possible.

In some cases, residents would attend family gatherings and other events and then return to the homes.

“And some just knew this was their home and didn’t significantly change practices, like dining in the rooms. That and other measures that, while not pleasant for the residents, can also reduce transmission,” she said.

“What we saw was the perfect storm” to create a surge in outbreaks, Dr. Osevala said.

Anthology of McCandless, a 94-bed personal care home in McCandless that was halfway full when the pandemic began, has nurses on staff and still had one of the deadliest outbreaks in the state with 14 fatalities in December and January.

“I just think it’s a highly contagious virus that we’re still learning a lot about,” said Nichole Mitcham, Anthology’s administrator. “The tricky part of COVID is you can have wonderful screening in place, but because of the number of people who are asymptomatic, they’ll pass those screenings and still spread the disease.”

Anthology, like many other facilities, did relax some of its protocols — including allowing dining and

Personal care homes vs. nursing homes

Though nursing homes and personal care homes are often lumped together as “long-term care” for seniors, they are very different facilities, overseen by different branches of state government, with different regulations.

FACILITY COMPARISON	PERSONAL CARE HOMES	NURSING HOMES
Number of facilities	1,151	693
Inspectors	45	115
Inspections (2019)	2,005	5,381
Sanctions against facilities (2019) ¹	57	178
Number of residents (pre-pandemic)	44,000	88,000
COVID-19 resident cases ¹	10,671 ²	31,642
COVID-19 resident deaths ¹	1,548 ²	7,281
COVID-19 staff cases ¹	6,182 ²	21,295
Regulated by ...	State	State and federal

¹Based on self-reported data as of Feb. 18.

²Includes data from 60 assisted living facilities

Sources: Pennsylvania departments of Human Services and Health, Pennsylvania Health Care Association

Research: Sean Hamill
Graphic: Ed Yozwick/Post-Gazette

holding activities together, albeit socially distanced — when cases got lower in the summer and early fall.

Even so, Ms. Mitcham said: “I feel very confident we did all we could to stop it.” Losing so many residents in less than a month “was devastating,” she said.

Because personal care homes are considered a “social model” of care — with rooms that resemble homes rather than the “medical model” of nursing homes — stopping residents from taking unnecessary visits outside the homes is difficult, several administrators said.

“We can’t force them to stay in; it’s their home,” said Wendy Mildner, administrator for The Sheridan at Bethel Park, which had a large outbreak in November and December that infected 56 of its 100 res-

idents, with seven deaths.

“Despite us saying, ‘It’s probably not a good idea to go out,’ they do,” said Ms. Mildner. “I’ve asked residents and their families to be careful, and I think many of them were careful.”

Still, she said, “I have a feeling a visitor brought [the virus] in, or a resident went out and brought it in with them.”

Mr. Sobek said he is concerned that some of those factors may have contributed to his mother’s death.

He believes she could have become infected when the facility decided to start letting residents with diabetes eat together in the cafeteria, although they were kept socially distanced. Others, including Mrs. Delewski’s sister, Dolores, who lived with her at Oakleaf, had to eat in their rooms.

“That didn’t make any



Thomas and Myrle Delewski

sense” for Oakleaf to have diabetic residents eating together in the cafeteria, Mr. Sobek said. “I think they lost that strictness they had earlier in the pandemic.”

He said he wonders if the facility was too short-staffed to feed all the residents in their rooms after 22 of Oakleaf’s roughly 76 staff members tested positive.

“I just don’t think Oakleaf did everything they could to protect my mother,” he said.

Neither Oakleaf’s long-time administrator, Roseann Rosnick, nor its owner, Edward McQuade, responded to questions left for Oakleaf by phone and email about what led to the outbreak and whether allowing diabetic residents to eat together could have led to Mrs. Delewski becoming infected.

Mr. Sobek’s mother, who was lucid even into the final days of her life, still had her own questions, her son said. “My mom would say, ‘I’d love to know who gave this to me,’” Mr. Sobek said.

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Deadly virus surge now helping to create herd immunity in U.S.

Los Angeles Times

LOS ANGELES — As coronavirus cases plummet nationwide and vaccinations total 1.7 million Americans a day and rising, health experts are increasingly striking a new tone in their pandemic assessments: optimism.

“I could be wrong, but I don’t think we’re going to see a big fourth surge,” said Dr. Paul Offit, a vaccine expert at Children’s Hospital of Philadelphia. “I think we’ve seen the worst of it.”

Many epidemiologists and other scientists, while still cautious, say they feel increasingly hopeful that the rest of 2021 will not replay the nightmare of last year.

The arrival of spring will likely aid the ongoing precipitous drop in coronavirus cases, as warmer weather allows people to spend more time outdoors and creates a less hospitable environment for the virus, experts say.

But the biggest factor, paradoxically, is something the nation spent the last year trying to prevent.

While 12% of Americans have received at least one dose of the COVID-19 vaccine, far more people — approximately 35% of the nation’s population — have already been infected with the coronavirus, Dr. Offit estimated. Studies have found that people who survive COVID-19 have im-

munity for several months, though it likely lasts even longer.

University of California, San Francisco epidemiologist Dr. George Rutherford said one of the reasons why cases are dropping so fast in California “is because of naturally acquired immunity, mostly in Southern California.” He estimated that 50% of Los Angeles County residents have been infected with the virus at some point.

“We’re really talking something starting to sound and look like herd immunity — although that true herd immunity is a ways off in the future,” Dr. Rutherford said recently.

Herd immunity is reached when so many people have immunity that a virus cannot find new hosts and stops spreading, resulting in community-wide protection. Scientists believe that in the case of the coronavirus, the threshold could be as high as 90%. The United States has not met this threshold but each step toward it slows transmission, experts say.

The effects may be greatest in places that endured the worst COVID-19 surges, including Los Angeles. After a horrific autumn and winter wave that has killed more than 12,000 people, an estimated 33% to 55% of county residents have already been infected with the coronavirus, according to USC researchers.

the week in review

A BRIEF ROUNDUP OF THE LOCAL NEWS OF THE WEEK

Compiled by Dan Majors
Pittsburgh Post-Gazette

The Pittsburgh Promise announced Wednesday that it will remove attendance and minimum GPA requirements for students in the Pittsburgh Public Schools class of 2021.

Staff writer Andrew Goldstein reported that the Promise said the one-time easement of requirements was meant to ensure that students who graduate this year can pursue postsecondary plans despite challenges they're facing during the COVID-19 pandemic.

"We have concluded that it will be nearly impossible to measure attendance for the class of 2021," said Saleem Ghubril, executive director of the Pittsburgh Promise. "We also believe that due to disparities in access to technology and ongoing hardships of COVID-19, some students' grades will be detrimentally impacted."

During normal years, the scholarship requires students to have a minimum cumulative, unweighted GPA of 2.5 throughout high school. Students with a GPA between 2.0 and 2.49 are eligible for the Promise Extension Program, which requires them to complete a year at Community College of Allegheny County before enrolling in another postsecondary institution in the state. But this year, students with GPAs below 2.0 will still be eligible for the extension program.

Eligibility for the scholarship also typically requires students to graduate with a 90% or higher attendance record. This year, however, student attendance will not be reviewed.

Other scholarship policies, including the residency and enrollment requirements, will not change.

DEP out to push electric vehicles

You know what's great about electric vehicles?

Well, the state Department of Environmental Protection has a feeling you don't, so it's going to publish a booklet for consumers extolling the benefits of zero-emission vehicles.

Staff writer Don Hopy reported Friday that DEP also is working on rules that would promote availability and use of electric vehicles.

This comes as the agency is putting up almost \$1 million to install 16 rapid chargers for such vehicles at four service stations in high-traffic areas near Pittsburgh and Philadelphia.

All of the stations will be located in community hubs, the DEP said, serving local residents' day-to-day charging needs.

The Sheetz at 9002 University Blvd. in Moon already is penciled in for four of the fast-charging plugs.

DEP and the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation also are helping to develop electric vehicle corridors for long-distance travelers every 50 miles along interstates 76, 95, 376 and 476.

Electric vehicle sales in the state have risen steadily, from just over 1,000 vehicles in 2012 to about 6,000 in 2019. During the third quarter of 2020, the most recent data available, electric vehicles made up 1.15% of Pennsylvania light-duty vehicle sales.

Penn State's Barron to retire in June 2022

Penn State University President Eric J. Barron on Friday confirmed his plans to retire in June 2022.

Mr. Barron, 69, took the helm of the university in 2014 and, as noted by staff writer Bill Schackner, guided the institution out of the Jerry Sandusky scandal, as well as through a fraternity hazing tragedy, economic struggles and COVID-19.

"I would have liked to have skipped COVID," Mr. Barron quipped Friday in remarks to the board of trustees.

A career academic and scientist, Mr. Barron instituted strategies for expanding research and entrepreneurship, boosting classroom access and reining in tuition prices. He also



Finn Tieman, 11, takes a practice shot during a late-morning skating session on the backyard ice rink (after a morning of schoolwork) on Wednesday in Castle Shannon.



Emily Matthews/Post-Gazette

"Relish" Rachel Aul, a hotdogger with the Oscar Mayer Wienermobile, stands in front of the vehicle on Feb. 14 outside the Heinz History Center in the Strip District. Ms. Aul drives the Wienermobile around the country with her fellow hotdogger "Saucy" Spence Bernhardt and stopped in Pittsburgh for the weekend.



Emily Matthews/Post-Gazette

Amanda Gargis, of North Braddock, the head packer at Potomac Bakery, places a plastic coin in a king cake Monday in preparation for Mardi Gras at the bakery in Dormont.



Andrew Rush/Post-Gazette

A Subaru Forester broke through the ice Thursday about 15 feet from shore at North Park Lake in McCandless.

oversaw a \$2.1 billion fundraising campaign, which is set to finish in 2022.

Mr. Barron said advance notice of his departure would allow for a period of transition to a new leader. Board members praised his contributions and said a national search would be conducted.

Pitt students in line for financial help

Bill Schackner, who also covers the University of Pittsburgh, reported that about 15,200 students on all five Pitt campuses are to receive grants of \$600 or \$1,050, depending on their individual situations, to offset unexpected educational costs due to COVID-19.

Recipients are being notified by campus email, with awards to appear in PittPAY on the Account Activity tab for spring 2021, officials said in a statement on the school's website Friday.

The Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act, which became law Dec. 27, includes \$22.9 billion for higher education institutions, including money going directly to students.

Pitt's allocation totaled \$30.6 million for institutional expenses, including technology costs, refunds and other revenue impacts due to the pandemic, as well as direct emergency student aid. In a statement, Pitt said \$15.3 million, or half of its allocation, would go to direct student aid.

"Students who have signed up for PittPAY eRefunds will receive the money directly in the bank account they have designated on the eRefunds tab within 2-3 business days," Pitt's statement said. Students

who have not registered for PittPAY eRefunds will receive a check at their home addresses within 10 to 14 days, the statement added.

The federal eligibility formula is weighted toward undergraduates but allows graduate students to receive grants too.

Airport sees mix of good, bad news

Christina Cassotis, CEO of the Allegheny County Airport Authority, which operates Pittsburgh International Airport, summed up January's passenger traffic for staff writer Mark Belko.

"It was a little less awful than December. Let's put it that way," she told him.

The numbers show that January passenger traffic was down 67.5% from its 2020 level. (December was down 70.4% from the previous year.)

The good news was on the other side of the ledger, under the heading "air cargo," which increased by 10.7%.

Ms. Cassotis credits that to the return of a Qatar Airways cargo flight and an expansion of service by FedEx.

"We definitely have seen an uptick in online ordering and express shipments," she said. "My guess is that [the increase] has to do with the pandemic."

Casino looking for a little luck

Mark Belko also keeps a close eye on property assessments in these parts. Last week he noted that Rivers Casino is appealing to Allegheny County Common Pleas Court after the county's board of property assessment appeals and review refused to

change the venue's 2020 assessment of \$245.9 million.

Holdings Acquisition Co. LP, the casino's owner, complains that the assessment — the highest in the county — is unfair in light of the pandemic's impact on business.

Mark warned that this could be just the tip of the iceberg as the county could see a wave of assessment appeals this year from hotels, restaurants, retailers, and commercial and office property owners looking for reductions.

Jonathan Kamin, co-managing partner of the Goldberg, Kamin & Garvin law firm, said he plans to file more than 50 appeals on behalf of commercial property owners before the March 31 appeals deadline. They include hotels, office buildings and shopping centers.

His argument is simple enough: The properties have lost income and value because of the pandemic.

"Operations and cash flow have been dramatically affected by the pandemic," he said. "Many of these properties will take years to stabilize."

Mike Suley, a former county property assessment director and board member, is aware of the problem.

"It should be obvious to everyone that 2020 was not a good year for commercial real estate and business," he said. "There were a lot of empty buildings last year."

Unless, of course, they hit a pothole

Staff writer Ed Blazina reported the next stop on construction of the Bus Rapid Transit system — which will link Oakland and Downtown — is a project review by a

federal consultant. A Port Authority official described it as "our last hurdle."

David Huffaker, the authority's chief development officer, told the board's planning and stakeholder committee Thursday the Federal Transit Administration has appointed a New York firm as the project management oversight consultant. McKissack and McKissack will review all design aspects of the project to make sure it meets federal standards before the agency releases a \$99.5 million grant to support the \$230 million effort.

"I'm going to stipulate that having a [federal review] is a good idea for this project," Mr. Huffaker said. "It helps us make sure we have our ducks in a row."

The design of the project, which will link the two business centers with bus-only lanes to provide more predictable service and avoid buses traveling too close to each other due to traffic, is about 90% complete. The agency expects the federal review to take six to eight weeks.

The system will use Fifth Avenue for inbound buses and Forbes Avenue outbound, then extend to Wilkinsburg via the Martin Luther King Jr. East Busway and to Highland Park and Greenfield using intersections where buses will have priority at traffic signals.

"This is a very complicated project, especially in the Uptown area," Mr. Huffaker said. "It's a very complex corridor, but we have a lot of communication going on."

Construction could start before the end of the year, and revenue service on the new system should begin in late 2023.

City out to help avoid evictions

Staff writer Ashley Murray reported that the Peduto administration plans to introduce a bill this week that could help renters avoid eviction, an issue housing advocates continue to highlight during the ongoing economic fallout caused by the pandemic.

Evictions are still occurring despite emergency orders, advocates say, and they want city officials to enact its own eviction moratorium, similar to what Harrisburg's local leaders passed in December.

Although an emergency court order postponed landlord-tenant proceedings "based upon non-payment of rent or end of lease" until Feb. 26, hearings are still going forward.

More than two dozen eviction hearings are scheduled in the judicial districts that fall within Pittsburgh's borders, according to the Carnegie Mellon University CREATE Lab's Eviction Rapid Response team, which has been tracking court filings since April.

"For folks who are evicted, the options for rehousing have never ever been worse," said Anne Wright, CREATE Lab project scientist. "Marginally affordable places that used to have reasonable availability do not have availability."

Time is of the essence. The Allegheny County Common Pleas Court emergency order expires in late February, and hearings will likely "hit the fan" on March 1, Ms. Wright said.

Nearly 230 hearings are already scheduled within city limits next month, according to the CREATE Lab's figures.

Council confronts growing controversy

Ashley Murray had another story telling us that Pittsburgh City Council took the first step in tightening an anti-discrimination law meant to protect hairstyles for people of color.

You might remember that the law, passed in October, raised questions regarding whether it would mean police officers could grow beards, which current bureau restrictions prevent.

The Peduto administration's amendment centers on removing the phrase "and other forms of hair presentation."

Zone 4 police Officer David Meade, in a letter to City Council, noted that numerous U.S. cities have taken the "progressive" step of allowing officers to wear beards.

"I would like to make it clear that my intent is not to have anything removed from a law that protects minorities, primarily African American women. I would ask that you add any protections that you see fit but not detract from protections currently in place," Officer Meade wrote.

Council's standing committee and members of the administration discussed the change for nearly an hour Wednesday.

Jam Hammond, head of the city's Commission on Human Relations, which investigates civil rights violations, said he doesn't know if Officer Meade's situation and the administration's amendment are "necessarily" connected.

"Civil rights does not work if you only protect one group of people, [the rights] only work if you protect all people," he said. "Civil rights law isn't a tool of equity, as it's trying to be used [in this case]. It's a tool of equality."

Another argument for not removing the language: Amending the legislation would not necessarily cancel individual departmental policies, Mr. Hammond said.

Councilwoman Erika Strassburger, one of eight council members who support the amendment, said, "For the record, I do believe that beards can be professional and can be safe [in public safety]."

Council is expected to give final approval to the amendment Tuesday.



Rahmat Gul/Associated Press
Afghan security personnel and Kabul residents move a damaged vehicle after a bomb attack Saturday in the Afghan capital. Three separate explosions in Kabul killed five people and wounded at least two others, a police official said.

Afghan police: 3 separate Kabul explosions kill 5, wound 2 more

The Associated Press

KABUL, Afghanistan — Three sticky bomb attacks in the Afghan capital, Kabul, killed at least five people and wounded two others Saturday, a police official said, amid a surge in violence in the war-torn country.

Kabul police spokesman Ferdaws Faramarz said two explosions caused by sticky bombs attached to vehicles took place 15 minutes apart and that a third targeting a police vehicle exploded about two hours later.

No group immediately claimed responsibility.

The majority of bomb

attacks in Kabul in recent months have been sticky bombs — explosive devices with magnets that are attached to vehicles and detonated by remote control or timer.

The second explosion targeted a car in a northwestern Kabul neighborhood in which national army soldiers were traveling, killing two soldiers. A civilian passerby was also killed.

The third explosion destroyed a police car in western Kabul, killing two police officers. Meanwhile, the first blast targeted a civilian car wounding both travelers inside the vehicle.

Kabul police said investigations were underway.

The Islamic State group's local affiliate has claimed responsibility for some of the attacks, but many go unclaimed, with the government pinning the blame on the Taliban. The insurgents have denied responsibility for most of the attacks.

Afghanistan has seen a nationwide spike in bombings, targeted killings and violence on the battlefield as peace negotiations in Qatar between the Taliban and the Afghan government have stalled. It has been over a month since the sides last met to discuss how to proceed.

Meanwhile, the new U.S. administration is reviewing the U.S.-Taliban peace deal signed Feb. 29, 2020. A major part of that agreement was Washington's commitment to a May 1 withdrawal of all foreign troops from Afghanistan.

Russia has stepped up efforts to try and find a way forward, visiting with regional players and officials and senior Taliban figures.

Zamir Kabulov, Russian President Vladimir Putin's special envoy for Afghanistan, met with Pakistani officials, including army chief Gen. Qamar Javed Bajwa, on Friday to discuss the peace process.

Nation/World briefs

Trump set to speak at event

Compiled from news services

Former President Donald Trump will speak at the conservative event known as CPAC on Feb. 28, his first public appearance and lengthy address since he left the White House last month.

A senior aide to Mr. Trump confirmed that he would attend the Conservative Public Action Conference, which is being held in Orlando, Fla., this year, and that he planned to talk about the future of the Republican Party and President Joe Biden's immigration policies, which so far have been aimed at undoing Mr. Trump's.

What Mr. Trump plans to talk about and what he ultimately says once he is onstage often diverge when he discards the scripts that aides prepare for him. But it will still be the first time that he has spoken in public since the rally that preceded the deadly Jan. 6 riot by his supporters at the Capitol.

The former president — who was permanently banned from Twitter and is facing investigations into his businesses and his potential culpability for the Capitol assault — has generally kept a low profile, except for giving a small round of interviews to sympathetic conservative news outlets about the death of radio host Rush Limbaugh last week. Even though the interviews were supposed to be about Mr. Limbaugh, Mr. Trump still strayed into repeating his false claims that the 2020 election was stolen from him.

Lebanon County officer charged in Capitol riot

A Lebanon County police officer is facing federal charges stemming from the Jan. 6 Capitol assault by supporters of former President Donald Trump

over the results of the 2020 election.

North Cornwall Township Officer Joseph Fischer, listed as a patrolman on the department's site, is charged with obstruction of law enforcement during civil disorder, entering a restricted building, violent entry and disorderly conduct on Capitol grounds, and obstruction of justice.

Authorities say Officer Fischer posted a Facebook video showing him entering the building and getting into a "physical encounter" with at least one police officer. They say Officer Fischer was captured on body camera footage by a police officer who was among those trying to push demonstrators out of the Capitol building.

Sheriff: 3 killed in La. gun store shooting

A person went into a gun store and shooting range in a New Orleans suburb and fatally shot two people Saturday, causing customers and staff to open fire on the shooter, who died, a sheriff said.

The shooting happened at the Jefferson Gun Outlet in the suburb of Metairie at about 2:50 p.m., according to a release from the Jefferson Parish Sheriff's Office.

Sheriff Joseph Lopinto said the shooter initially hit two people inside, and then several other people opened fire on the shooter, both inside and outside of the building.

Guns and ammunition are sold in the front of the outlet that faces a main thoroughfare through Jefferson Parish. Customers who want to frequent the gun range generally go around to the side entrance of the building. Staff who work there often wear a sidearm.

Sheriff Lopinto said two other people were also hit by gunfire and were hospitalized in stable condition.

U.S. deports former Nazi guard

By Devlin Barrett
The Washington Post

WASHINGTON — A 95-year-old former German concentration camp guard who made a new life in Tennessee was deported to his home country Saturday after an index card in a sunken ship helped prove his Nazi ties.

Friedrich Karl Berger was deported to Germany after U.S. authorities determined he once served at a subcamp of the Neuengamme concentration camp system near Hamburg.

The camp held Russian, Dutch and Polish civilians, as well as Jewish prisoners and political opponents from France, Italy and other countries. In the winter of 1945, according to Berger's removal order, prisoners were forced to live in "atrocious" conditions and work "to the point of exhaustion and death."

It was not immediately clear if German authorities would take steps against Berger. Germany dropped its case against Berger last year due to lack of evidence, but he will be questioned by German police, and new charges could be possible, according to German media.

In 1945, as British and Canadian forces approached the subcamp, Berger helped guard prisoners forced to evacuate to the main camp, Justice Department officials have said. During the brutal two-week trek, 70 prisoners died.

Hundreds more were killed when they were placed on two ships at anchor in the Bay of Lubeck in the Baltic Sea. The ships were mistakenly bombed by British warplanes in May 1945 during the last week of the war.

Justice Department historians documented Berger's service at the camp in part with information from an index card found in one of the sunken ships several years after the bombing. The card summarized Berger's work in the camp system.

Acting Attorney General Monica Wilkinson said



U.S. Department of Justice via Getty Images
Friedrich Karl Berger, a former concentration camp guard who was deported back to Germany, in 1959.

Berger's removal shows the department's "commitment to ensuring that the United States is not a safe haven for those who have participated in Nazi crimes against humanity and other human rights abuses."

Since 1979, the Justice Department has won similar cases against 70 individuals, but the pace of Nazi-era cases has slowed with the passage of time, and the department has no other such cases pending — meaning Berger could ultimately end up being the last former Nazi guard kicked out of the country.

After the war, Berger emigrated from Germany to Canada with his wife and daughter, and came to the United States in 1959.

Berger, now a widower with two grandchildren, has said he was ordered to work in the camp, was only there a short time, and did not carry a weapon.

"After 75 years, this is ridiculous. I cannot believe it," he said last year as he fought his expulsion from the U.S. "I cannot understand how this can happen in a country like this. You're forcing me out of my home."

Justice Department investigators concluded Berger worked in the German navy before being detailed to the concentration camp in the final months of the war.

During an immigration court trial last year, Berger acknowledged he guarded prisoners, did not request a transfer from the camp and was still receiving a pension from Germany for work based in part on his wartime service, U.S. officials said.

After the trial, Berger said much of what was determined in court was based on "lies." "I was 19 years old," he said. "I was ordered to go there."

Justice Department officials said Berger came to the United States legally. The federal law that barred the entry of people who assisted in Nazi persecution had expired in 1957. When he applied to emigrate to the United States, Berger disclosed that he had been a member of the German navy.

Berger was ordered removed under a 1978 law, known as the Holtzman Amendment, that bars anyone who participated in Nazi-sponsored persecution from entering or living in the U.S.




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Four blocks, hit by COVID-19, learn to change

A series looking at how four Pittsburgh business districts have dealt with the global pandemic.

Wednesday
East Ohio Street —
Businesses get creative during COVID-19

COMING THIS WEEK

Thursday
North Homewood Avenue — Revitalization effort on hold

Friday
East Carson Street — In search of lost character

ADJUSTING TO SURVIVE

Business owners on artsy stretch of Penn Avenue have been forced to adapt again

By Lauren Rosenblatt
Pittsburgh Post-Gazette

The businesses on the stretch of Penn Avenue between Lawrenceville and East Liberty have worked for years to build a vibrant arts community full of galleries, shops and restaurants that is more than just a thruway.

But it hasn't been easy.

A 1998 arts initiative to get artists to live and work on the block brought galleries and then restaurants and shops that benefited from the foot traffic. It even brought monthly gallery crawls that led to more revenue in one night than some places saw in weeks.

The 2008 economic recession took some of those businesses back out. A construction project in the early 2010s tore up parts of Penn Avenue, cutting off access to sidewalks, parking and revenue. Then 2020 happened.

"We were just getting to the upswing," said Nina Gibbs, the community engagement and planning specialist with the Bloomfield-Garfield Corp., named for the two neighborhoods surrounding Penn Avenue. "I feel like it ended before anyone really got to enjoy it."

Yet again the business owners on the block are adapting.

John Mahood, who owns a marketing and web design company that has been on Penn Avenue since 2005, said COVID-19 won't make business owners call it quits.

"The spirit's always been there. It's there today even during COVID; people are just a little bit in hibernation," he said. "It's definitely going to be awesome."

"[But] we might have to wait a minute."



"The Bride on Penn Ave" mural by Judy Penzer and Jill Watson, seen Feb. 9, is an eye-catching landmark in Garfield.

Alexandra Wimley/Post-Gazette

and cancer diagnosis. Just as she was getting back on her feet, the virus hit.

She applied for about 20 loans and grants, but because her teachers were considered independent contractors and the first round of Paycheck Protection Program funding was meant to cover payroll, she didn't get



Matt Freed/Post-Gazette

Megan Flinn transitioned her business, One Point One Yoga on Penn Avenue, to virtual classes after the pandemic started.

A balancing act at One Point One Yoga

Megan Flinn, owner of One Point One Yoga, released the studio's first virtual class video on the same day last year that Gov. Tom Wolf closed all in-person, non-essential businesses. The timing was coincidental.

Suddenly, her longtime vision of creating an online community was the only option. "So every day after that, we were putting out one video for people," Ms. Flinn said.

By June, the studio was able to open its doors again, but after talking with her students, Ms. Flinn decided to stay virtual. Most people weren't willing to wear a mask.

Instead, the studio went outdoors in parks, shared spaces and, eventually, students' backyards.

"People came in their cars, they left in their cars and we had time in between when we got to be together again," Ms. Flinn said.

Amid all of this, she was still paying rent on a studio she didn't use.

Her own story is a bit like that of the block's. Before the financial stress of COVID-19, she had been battling the financial stress that comes with an unexpected surgery

any initially. When she finally did, she got only enough to cover half a month's rent.

Instead of cutting teachers' salaries, she offered fewer classes, paying them the same rate but fewer times a week.

By September, the classes had shifted back inside, but only about a tenth of the normal customers returned, Ms. Flinn said. Some didn't feel comfortable going anywhere, some wanted to go to a place where a mask wasn't required, and some lost a job and couldn't afford the classes.

Next September, Ms. Flinn will have to make a decision: Renew the lease, or go back to a business model she used to follow of practicing yoga wherever there's space.

"There's only so much savings that a person can dip into," she said.

Doing more with less at East End Community Thrift

Between Winebiddle and Evaline streets on Penn Avenue sits the East End Community Thrift, a volunteer-run shop that has been selling dishes, clothing and winter coats since 1993.

The thrift store closed for



Alexandra Wimley/Post-Gazette

Monique Hill, of Shadyside, checks out with the help of store manager Shawna Hammond at East End Community Thrift on Jan. 30 in Garfield.

most of the spring and summer, even after state guidelines permitted reopening. Volunteers needed time to clean and organize donations that hadn't stopped coming in even when shopping was off-limits.

When it did reopen, store manager Shawna Hammond could tell by the steady stream of regular customers, often those who live in the neighborhood and stop by two or three times a week, that they were glad to have it back.

"They want somebody to talk to."

The thrift store is run by the neighboring Thomas Merton Center, a social justice organization. The store is funded primarily through donations and other fundraisers, something that has become more challenging during a pandemic, said executive director Gabriel McMorland.

It has only raised prices one time in its history — from \$1 to \$2.

Getting the design team off the bench at Imagebox

The design team at Imagebox, a marketing and web services company, has been "sitting half on the bench" throughout the COVID-19 pandemic, said founder John Mahood.

The developers, on the other hand, are working double.

"We say 'yes' to everything," Mr. Mahood said. "All these little things that maybe in non-COVID days I might have said, 'Oh, heck, no.' ... Now, we're absolutely here to help."

In October, the company

was balancing about 150 projects — up from the 80 or so a normal workload would entail. Because the projects were smaller than usual, profits were still low.

Most clients moved away from the print products, leaving the designers on staff with little to do.

In March, Mr. Mahood applied for federal PPP funding. He credits the loans for keeping the designers on staff, using that time to teach them new skills in web design and other training.

"As the world opens back up, we're going to be able to do all the great things we were able to do pre-COVID, but also we've picked up a ton of new skills," he said.

And he and his 14 employees will probably continue working from home, at least



Steve Mellon/Post-Gazette

John Mahood, owner and chief strategist at web design agency Imagebox, located on Penn Avenue in Garfield, said his company is taking on more projects than usual to stay afloat during the pandemic.

part of the time, eliminating any need to expand the space.

"Do we have to invest half a million dollars to put a building in the back?" Mr. Mahood said. "Now, we invest \$15 a month in another Zoom account."

Los Angeles to roll out their menu ideas to Pittsburgh customers. The LA restaurant gets a cut of the profits, and Everyday's a Sunday gets new dishes, from cheese-steaks to breakfast burritos to grilled cheese.



Steve Mellon/Post-Gazette

Natalie DeiCas is surrounded by food Jan. 29 from 412 Food Rescue at her brunch and breakfast restaurant, Everyday's A Sunday, located on Penn Avenue in Garfield. Ms. DeiCas' restaurant doubles as a location to distribute 412 Food Rescue donations.

Grilled cheese from LA and donations from 412 Food Rescue

Everyday's a Sunday, a breakfast and lunch cafe, has doubled as a pickup spot for people in need of food for the past two years. The restaurant collects food donated to 412 Food Rescue, a nonprofit, and turns it into Sunday dinners and other meals for families.

The restaurant didn't get involved in the work because of COVID-19, but owner and chef Natalie DeiCas said the number of people in need and the number of donations have continued to go up since the virus hit.

"It's devastating just to see families not be able to eat," she said. "But it's wonderful to be able to provide them food."

At Everyday's a Sunday, Ms. DeiCas said the restaurant had to let two employees go from her eight-person team and has watched orders and revenue fluctuate since March. At first, it felt like they were one of the only restaurants still open for takeout, so the orders kept rolling in. Later, as other restaurants came online, revenue dipped.

The cafe is partnering with other virtual restaurants — which Ms. DeiCas called "ghost restaurants" — from

Ms. DeiCas didn't apply for the first round of funding from the Paycheck Protection Program.

This time around, she plans to fill out an application.

'Up and above' guidelines at Artisan

Jason Angst didn't agree with some of the health and safety guidelines coming from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention — at least not when it came to an eight-hour-long tattoo session that involves artists getting up close and personal with their work.

From his perspective at Artisan Tattoo, 5001 Penn Ave., wearing a mask wasn't going to stop the spread of the virus for that long of a period of time.

Mr. Angst set up an elaborate procedure to go "up and above the CDC's guidelines" and insisted the tattoo artists have a conversation with clients about the risks.

"I said all that, everybody agreed to it, nobody did it," he said. "So I closed the business."

Now, he's operating as a one-man independent contractor, and financial and health concerns have meant he has lost about 40% of his usual business.

SEE **BLOCK**, PAGE A-11



A medical team bandages a wounded man on Saturday after a demonstration against the military coup in Myanmar. Security forces fired on and beat protesters in Mandalay. STR/AFP via Getty Images

2 Myanmar protesters killed by police fire, reports say

The Associated Press

MANDALAY, Myanmar — Two anti-coup protesters were shot dead by riot police who fired live rounds on Saturday in Mandalay, Myanmar's second-largest city, local media reported.

One of the victims was shot in the head and died at the scene, according to Frontier Myanmar, a news and business magazine based in Yangon, the country's largest city. Another was shot in the chest and died en route to the hospital.

Several other serious injuries were also reported. The shootings occurred near Mandalay's Yadanabon dock, where tear gas and rubber bullets were used on protesters earlier in the day.

The Irrawaddy news website also confirmed the deaths on social media.

Security forces had been increasing their pressure against anti-coup protesters earlier Saturday, using water cannons, tear gas, slingshots and rubber bullets against demonstrators and striking dock workers in Mandalay.

At least five people were injured by rubber bullets and had to be carried away in ambulances, according to an Associated Press journalist who witnessed the violence.

Some 500 police and soldiers descended on the area near Yadanabon dock after

dock workers joined the national civil disobedience movement, refusing to work until the military junta that seized power in a Feb. 1 coup reinstates the democratically elected government.

Protesters and residents were forced to flee the neighborhood amid the violence, as security forces chased after them.

There were reports of sounds that resembled gunfire. A group of journalists was forced to flee after being hit with tear gas and slingshot projectiles.

Earlier in the week in Mandalay, security forces cracked down on state railway workers in a similar fashion after they joined the civil disobedience movement.

Less than an hour after the 8 p.m. curfew started on Wednesday, gunshots were heard as more than two dozen police officers with shields and helmets marched past railway workers' housing. Numerous videos posted on social media showed muzzle flashes as shots were heard, and some police shot slingshots and threw rocks at the buildings. Marching chants of "left, right, left, right" could be heard along with shouts of "shoot, shoot."

Also Saturday, anti-coup protesters in Myanmar's two largest cities paid tribute to a young woman who died a day earlier after being

shot by police during a rally against the military takeover.

An impromptu memorial created under an elevated roadway in Yangon attracted around 1,000 protesters. A wreath of bright yellow flowers was hung beneath a photograph of Mya Thwet Thwet Khine, who was shot in the capital, Naypyitaw, on Feb. 9, two days before her 20th birthday.

Her death on Friday, announced by her family, was the first confirmed fatality among thousands of protesters who have faced off against security forces since top military commander Min Aung Hlaing took power in the coup.

Protesters at the memorial chanted and held up signs that read "End the dictatorship in Myanmar" and "You will be remembered Mya Thwet Thwet Khine." The supporters also laid roses and rose petals on images of the woman.

Video from the day she was shot show her sheltering from water cannons and suddenly dropping to the ground after a bullet penetrated the motorcycle helmet she was wearing. She had been on life support in a hospital for more than a week with what doctors said was no chance of recovery.

U.S. State Department spokesperson Ned Price offered his government's condolences Friday and reiterated

calls on the military to refrain from violence against peaceful protesters.

In Mandalay on Saturday, a protest led by medical university students drew more than 1,000 people, many of whom also carried flowers and images of Mya Thwet Thwet Khine.

Others held signs saying "CDM," referring to the nationwide civil disobedience movement that has encouraged doctors, engineers and others to protest the coup by refusing to work.

Across the country, protests showed no signs of slowing down despite recent crackdowns by the military government — including a sixth consecutive night in which the internet was cut for many hours.

Demonstrators also gathered elsewhere in Yangon, chanting and holding placards and images of Nobel laureate Aung San Suu Kyi, whose democratically elected government was overthrown.

Aerial images taken Friday showed streets in Yangon painted with the words "The military dictatorship must fall" in Burmese, and "We want democracy" and "Free our leaders" in English.

Security forces have been relatively restrained so far in confronting protesters in Yangon, but appeared to be toughening their stance in areas where there is less media presence.

Moscow court rejects opposition leader Navalny's appeal

The Associated Press

MOSCOW — A Moscow court on Saturday rejected Russian opposition leader Alexei Navalny's appeal of his prison sentence, even as the country faced an order from a top European rights court to free the Kremlin's most prominent foe.

A few hours later, a judge in a separate case ordered Navalny to pay a fine for defaming a World War II veteran.

During the first court hearing, Navalny urged Russians to stand up to the Kremlin in a fiery speech mixing references to the Bible and "Harry Potter."

Navalny, 44, an anti-corruption crusader and President Vladimir Putin's most vocal critic, was arrested on Jan. 17 upon returning from Germany, where he spent five months recovering from a nerve-agent poisoning that he blames on the Kremlin. Russian authorities have rejected the accusation.

Earlier this month, Mr. Navalny was sentenced to two years and eight months in prison for violating terms of his probation while convalescing in Germany. He appealed the sentence and asked to be released. A Moscow City Court judge instead reduced the prison sentence to just over 2 1/2 years, deducting a month-and-a-half that Navalny spent under house arrest in early 2015.

The sentence stems from a 2014 embezzlement conviction that Navalny has rejected as fabricated and the European Court of Human Rights has ruled to be unlawful.

Navalny has been held in Moscow's Matrosskaya Tishina prison, but Russian news reports said that after losing his appeal, he would likely be sent to a prison in the western part of Russia within the next few days to serve out his sentence.

His arrest and imprisonment have fueled a huge wave of protests across Russia. Authorities responded with a sweeping crackdown, detaining about 11,000 people, many of whom were fined or given jail terms ranging from seven to 15 days.

In his speech at the hearing, Navalny also referenced the animated sitcom "Rick and Morty" as he urged Russians to resist pressure from authorities and challenge the Kremlin to build a fairer and more prosperous country.

"The government's task is to scare you and then

persuade you that you are alone," he said. "Our Volodermont in his palace also wants me to feel cut off," he added, in a reference to Mr. Putin.

"To live is to risk it all," he said, citing "Rick and Morty." "Otherwise, you're just an inert chunk of randomly assembled molecules drifting wherever the universe blows you."

Navalny also addressed the judge and the prosecutor, arguing that they could have a much better life in a new Russia.

"Just imagine how wonderful life would be without constant lying," he said. "Imagine how great it would be to work as a judge ... when no one would be able to call you and give you directions what verdicts to issue."

He insisted that he was unable to report to the authorities in line with his probation requirements while he was convalescing in Germany after his poisoning, emphasizing that he returned to Russia immediately after his health allowed.

"I wasn't hiding," he said. "The entire world knew where I was."

Navalny said he was an atheist before but has come to believe in God, adding that his faith helped him face his challenges. He said he believed the Bible phrase that those who hunger and thirst for righteousness are blessed, and that he felt no regret about deciding to return home to Russia.

"Even though our country is built on injustice and we all constantly face injustice ... we also see that millions of people, tens of millions of people, want righteousness," Navalny told the court. "They want the righteousness and sooner or later they will have it."

Asked about the impact of Navalny's prison sentence on Russia's politics, Kremlin spokesman Dmitry Peskov told reporters that the country's "rich and multifaceted" political scene will develop regardless of the verdict.

Russia has rejected Western criticism of Navalny's arrest and the crackdown on demonstrations as meddling in its internal affairs.

In a ruling Tuesday, the European Court of Human Rights ordered the Russian government to release Navalny, citing "the nature and extent of risk to the applicant's life."

Businesses on stretch of Penn Avenue once again adjusting to survive

BLOCK, FROM A-10

Mr. Angst was able to receive funds through the first round of the Paycheck Protection Program and later through some unemployment benefits. He owns and lives in the building, and his overhead costs went down significantly once the other artists stopped coming in — and once he turned off the heat more often than not.

Financially, things are OK. Mentally, it's been harder.

"At this point, I'm solid, I'm stable [financially], I have leveled off in a way that is comfortable and only slightly anxiety-inducing," Mr. Angst said. "The largest difficulty is actually just making it to work."

"It's the worst I've ever been. ... There are days when I can't get out of bed."

Piping hot decisions from Bantha Tea Bar

At Bantha Tea Bar, COVID-19 had been affecting operations long before Pennsylvania mandated business shutdowns.

Most of the tea that stocks the shelves comes from India and China, said co-owner



Jack Ball, co-owner of the Bantha Tea Bar, makes a cup of tea for a customer Jan. 28 in Bloomfield. The tea at Mr. Ball's business mostly comes from India and China, and delays in shipments because of the pandemic have hit the business hard.

Jack Ball. So when the virus started affecting manufacturing in China, it delayed the tea shipments. As international travel slowed, the tea ended up stuck in one country or another.

"It's going to be a long time before it gets back to normalcy," Mr. Ball said.

At Bantha, which opened in 2015, Mr. Ball said the shop feels the loss of the different types of customers it served: nonprofits that gathered for meetings, "laptop campers" who set up a workstation and stayed for hours, and out-of-towners who found the store online and

wanted to check it out in person.

Now Mr. Ball finds people like to come in, experience the teas, and then go outside to settle in at an outdoor table or take a mug on a walk through the nearby cemetery.

Bantha started offering a

Garfield, Bloomfield business corridors



GARFIELD, tract 1017

Total population: 1,327

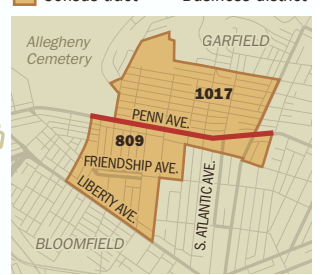
% Minority 69% % in Poverty 29% % Renters 46%

Median age: 38

Median household income: \$37,406

Number of households: 646

Census tract Business district



BLOOMFIELD, tract 809

Total population: 1,911

% Minority 17% % in Poverty 8.4% % Renters 75%

Median age: 31

Median household income: \$61,823

Number of households: 1,027

Source: American Community Survey (2019)

Ed Yozwick/Post-Gazette

"tea of the month" subscription service in November, partnered with a restaurant to offer deals on takeout meals and rented space to the neighboring bike shop.

Mr. Ball has had to do some rearranging, sometimes paying vendors late or apologizing when he can't make the usual orders. Bantha's co-owner owns the building and has temporarily

paused rent payments.

Mr. Ball is optimistic the spring will come with some loosened restrictions.

"If we can go back up then, then that's fine, it'll be OK," he said. "But if there's another shutdown and non-essential businesses and all that, it'll be really difficult."

Lauren Rosenblatt: rosenblatt@post-gazette.com

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MAKING THE CASE

How the Oklahoma City bombing trial prepared Merrick Garland to take on domestic terrorism

By Matt Zepotosky
and Ann E. Marimow
The Washington Post

The truck bomb leveled a section of the Alfred P. Murrah Federal Building in downtown Oklahoma City, killing 168 and injuring hundreds more in one of the deadliest domestic terrorist attacks on U.S. soil. But as Merrick Garland huddled with the lead prosecutor on the case, he urged caution in presenting the massive amount of evidence from the wreckage.

"Do not bury the crime in the clutter," he said.

Judge Garland, then a top Justice Department official, was encouraging prosecutors to speed the trial along and jettison superfluous findings in their case against Timothy McVeigh, who was convicted of carrying out the 1995 attack and executed in 2001, said Joe Hartzler, the team's lead attorney. Mr. Hartzler said he found the advice so compelling that he wrote the words on a sheet of paper and hung it on an office wall as a rallying cry for his team.

More than two decades later, Judge Garland, 68, is preparing to lead the Justice Department as attorney general and facing a domestic terrorism threat that has metastasized thanks to white supremacists and conspiracy-minded anti-government types.

Those who worked with him on the Oklahoma City case — and the prosecution of another notorious domestic terrorist known as the Unabomber — say the experiences shaped him and make him well-positioned to confront the current threat.

"This almost feels like a precursor. How much more experience could you possibly have in domestic terrorism?" said Donna Bucella, a former Justice Department official who, like Judge Garland, was sent to Oklahoma City in the attack's



Then-Deputy Attorney General Jamie Gorelick, right, meets with Merrick Garland in 1995. Judge Garland, who worked on the Oklahoma City bombing case that year, is President Joe Biden's nominee to become attorney general. Those who worked with him in 1995 say that experience and others have prepared him for the job.

Bill O'Leary/Washington Post

aftermath to help manage law enforcement's response. "He'll be very methodical. I think he'll demand it's being done the right way."

Tough questions

Judge Garland, who has spent the past two decades as a federal appellate judge in Washington, is scheduled to appear before the Senate Judiciary Committee on Monday for a confirmation hearing, where he will face tough questions

about how he would handle the threat of domestic terrorism and other politically sensitive matters. Judge Garland, who declined to be interviewed for this article, was known as a moderate judge with a knack for building consensus. Although Senate Republicans famously refused to even consider his nomination for a Supreme Court seat in 2016, he is widely expected to be confirmed as attorney general with bipartisan support.

Judge Garland will face the immediate task of overseeing hundreds of cases stemming from the Capitol riot on Jan. 6, which led to former President Donald Trump's second impeachment. Democrats are likely to press him on his willingness to investigate or prosecute Mr. Trump and his allies in connection with inciting the rioters, while Republicans will seek to ensure that he wouldn't use the Justice Department's muscle to

tamp down conservative ideas.

President Joe Biden recently tasked the director of national intelligence, in coordination with the FBI and the Department of Homeland Security, with compiling a comprehensive threat assessment on violent domestic extremism. The National Security Council is also reviewing policy to determine whether more can be done to mitigate the threat. Judge Garland and the Justice Department will play a critical role in both efforts, as they will be responsible for investigating and prosecuting possible domestic terrorists nationwide while balancing concerns about civil liberties and free speech rights.

"If you are a good steward of the Department of Justice, you will be very cognizant of the swings that we've had in this country between liberty and security," said Jamie Gorelick, a former deputy attorney general who worked with Judge Garland in the 1990s. "And one of the things that this country is going to get with a Merrick Garland attorney generalship is someone who understands those swings and understands the need to respect the need for security and to respect our civil liberties."

In his Senate questionnaire, Judge Garland said the most important cases he worked included the prosecution of Unabomber Theodore Kaczynski, who carried out 16 mail bombings over 17 years, killing three and injuring scores more, and that of McVeigh, a former Army sergeant who came to hate the U.S. government and identify with far-right militia types.

Ms. Gorelick said she recalled sitting in a Justice Department office with Judge Garland, who was then her top deputy, and watching television footage of first responders carrying wounded or dead children out of the wreckage.

SEE **GARLAND**, PAGE A-14

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Susan Walsh/Associated Press
Attorney General nominee Merrick Garland speaks during an event at The Queen theater in Wilmington, Del.

How bombings prepared Merrick Garland to head the Justice Department

GARLAND, FROM A-13

“He just said, ‘I’ve got to go. Please send me.’” Ms. Gorelick said.

‘Nothing there’

The most devastating part: the site of the building’s day care center.

“There was nothing there. It was just a big, empty concave hole,” Judge Garland, who at the time of the bombing was a father to two young children, said, becoming emotional as he described the experience.

Early in the investigation, Judge Garland served as supervisor and line prosecutor, presenting arguments at an initial hearing on the case even as he coordinated the sprawling, multistate investigation. Because of the damage in Oklahoma City, McVeigh’s initial proceeding was at nearby Tinker Air Force Base; those involved recalled Mr. Garland pushing for media access, despite the logistical challenge.

“You know, it’s going to

be bad enough they’re going to conspiracy theories,” Judge Garland recalled saying at the time. “The defendant is going to complain he didn’t get an open hearing. The law requires an open hearing.”

Judge Garland said he initially feared, because of reports of additional threats and truck bombs, that the Oklahoma City explosion was just the beginning of “some kind of rebellion or war.” Larry Mackey, a prosecutor on the McVeigh case and that of co-conspirator Terry Nichols, said Judge Garland encouraged investigators to run down possible connections to militia groups — cognizant that the case had greater meaning for the nation.

“His message — and we certainly understood and believed it, and I think ultimately the jury did as well — [was] that we’re going to respond to terrorism by relying on the institutions that made this country so great,” Mr. Mackey said. “Merrick’s theme — and the prosecution’s theme — was, ‘We’re going to be greater than they are.’”

Robert Cleary, the lead prosecutor on the Unabomber case, said Judge Garland brought “a laserlike focus on the issues of gravest importance.”

“Given the times we’re in, I think you’re going to see this as a very real priority for him, and I think you’ll see him and his inner circle dedicating a lot of resources to combating domestic and even international terrorism as well,” Mr. Cleary said.

Manhattan DA recruits noted prosecutor for Trump inquiry

By William K. Rashbaum, Ben Protess and Jonah E. Bromwich
The New York Times

As the Manhattan district attorney’s office steps up its criminal investigation of Donald Trump, it has reached outside its ranks to enlist a prominent former federal prosecutor to help scrutinize financial dealings at the former president’s company, according to several people with knowledge of the matter.

The former prosecutor, Mark Pomerantz, has deep experience investigating and defending white-collar and organized crime cases, bolstering the team under District Attorney Cyrus Vance that is examining Mr. Trump and his family business, the Trump Organization.

The investigation by Mr. Vance, a Democrat, is focused on possible tax and bank-related fraud, including whether the Trump Organization misled its lenders or local tax authorities about the value of his properties to obtain loans and tax benefits, the people with knowledge of the matter said, requesting anonymity because of the sensitive nature of the investigation. Mr. Trump has maintained he did nothing improper and has long railed against the inquiry, calling it a politically motivated “witch hunt.”

In recent months, Mr. Vance’s office has broadened the long-running investigation to include an array of financial transactions and Trump properties — including Trump Tower on Fifth Avenue in Manhattan, various Trump hotels and the Seven Springs estate in Westchester County — as prosecutors await a ruling from the U.S. Supreme Court that could give them access to Mr. Trump’s tax returns.

The prosecutors have also interviewed a number of witnesses and have issued more than a dozen subpoenas, including to one of Mr. Trump’s top lenders, Ladder Capital, the people with knowledge of the matter said.

In addition, investigators subpoenaed a company hired by Mr. Trump’s other



Richard Drew/Associated Press
Manhattan District Attorney Cyrus Vance leaves court in New York. Mr. Vance, who has been fighting to get former President Donald Trump’s tax returns, got Deutsche Bank in 2019 to turn over other Trump financial records. Mr. Vance’s office has hired prominent former prosecutor Mark Pomerantz for its ongoing investigation of the former president.

main lender, Deutsche Bank, to assess the value of certain Trump properties, one of the people with knowledge of the previously unreported subpoenas said.

Months earlier, Mr. Vance’s office had subpoenaed records from Deutsche Bank itself, The New York Times previously reported. More recently, Deutsche Bank employees provided testimony to Mr. Vance’s office about the bank’s relationship with the Trump Organization, a person briefed on the matter said.

Still, despite the burst of investigative activity, prosecutors have said the tax returns and other financial records are vital to their inquiry — and the Supreme Court has delayed a final decision for months.

Manhattan prosecutors have also subpoenaed the Trump Organization for records related to tax deductions on millions of dollars in consulting fees, some of which appear to have gone to Mr. Trump’s daughter Ivanka Trump.

The Trump Organization turned over some of those records last month, though the prosecutors have questioned whether the company has fully responded to the subpoena, the people with knowledge of the matter said.

Mr. Trump won an acquittal in his second impeachment trial this month, but he remains the focus of at least two state criminal investigations. Besides the inquiry in Manhattan, prosecutors in Georgia are scrutinizing Mr. Trump’s effort to persuade local officials to undo the election results there. His departure from office has left him without the shield from indictment that the presidency provided.

The Manhattan district attorney’s office has not accused Mr. Trump of wrongdoing, and it remains unclear whether Mr. Vance, whose term ends in January, will ultimately bring charges against Mr. Trump or any Trump Organization employees.

The Trump Organization declined to comment, but in the past, lawyers for the company have said its practices complied with the law

and have called the investigation a “fishing expedition.”

Mr. Pomerantz, 69, was sworn in earlier this month to serve as a special assistant district attorney, according to Danny Frost, a spokesman for the district attorney, who otherwise declined to comment on the inquiry. Mr. Pomerantz will work solely on the Trump investigation.

The hiring of an outsider is a highly unusual move for a prosecutor’s office, but the 2½-year investigation of the former president and his family business is unusually complex. And Mr. Vance, whose office has made a few missteps in other white-collar cases, had already hired FTI, a large consulting company, to help analyze Mr. Trump’s financial records.

Prosecutors are scrutinizing whether the Trump Organization artificially inflated the value of some of his signature properties to obtain the best possible loans, while simultaneously lowballing the property values to reduce property taxes, the people with knowledge of the matter said. The prosecutors are also looking at the Trump Organization’s statements to insurance companies about the value of various assets.

The Trump Organization’s lawyers are likely to argue to prosecutors that it could not have duped sophisticated financial institutions that did their own analysis of Mr. Trump’s properties without relying on what Mr. Trump’s company told them. The company’s lawyers are also likely to emphasize that the practice of providing such differing valuations is widespread in New York’s real estate industry.

Deutsche Bank has said it is cooperating with the investigation. A spokesman for Ladder Capital, which securitized the loans years ago and thus no longer owns them, declined to comment.

Mr. Pomerantz, who has been helping with the case informally for months, has taken a temporary leave from the law firm Paul Weiss to join Mr. Vance’s office. Among other tasks, he

will likely handle interactions with key witnesses.

Mr. Vance also retained veteran constitutional lawyers to work on the briefs filed in the 18-month legal battle over the office’s subpoena for Mr. Trump’s tax returns and other financial records, which has twice reached the U.S. Supreme Court. The case was argued by Mr. Vance’s general counsel, Carey Dunne, who is helping to lead the investigation.

The court could rule for a second time on the matter soon, potentially putting eight years of Mr. Trump’s personal and corporate tax records and other documents in the hands of prosecutors for the first time — a development that Mr. Vance’s office has called central to its investigation.

Mr. Pomerantz, a leading figure in New York legal circles, clerked for Judge Edward Weinfeld in Manhattan and Supreme Court Justice Potter Stewart. He then became a federal prosecutor in the U.S. attorney’s office in Manhattan, where he rose to lead the appellate unit before leaving in 1982.

In private practice, he developed a specialty in organized crime and was involved in a 1988 case that helped determine the legal definition of racketeering. His former law partner, Ronald Fischetti, estimated they tried nearly 25 cases that involved organized crime in some form or another.

Mr. Pomerantz returned to the Manhattan U.S. attorney’s office to head the criminal division between 1997 and 1999, overseeing major securities fraud and organized crime cases, perhaps most prominently against John Gotti, the Gambino boss.

He later joined Paul Weiss, one of the best-known law firms in New York, where he defended Robert Torricelli, the New Jersey senator accused of campaign finance violations.

“He worked both sides of the street, so he’s not going to be biased by virtue of temperament,” said Robert Litt, a former general counsel for the director of national intelligence, who has known Mr. Pomerantz since 1976.

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Saturday’s Match 6
16-22-28-35-38-48

Saturday’s Treasure Hunt
1-3-7-10-14

Saturday’s Pick 5
8-1-5-2-0 (day);
7-2-1-0-8 (night)

Saturday’s Pick 4
6-1-7-3 (day);
1-5-7-5 (night)

Saturday’s Pick 3
4-0-6 (day);
9-4-1 (night)

Saturday’s Pick 2
0-1 (day); 9-4 (night)

Wild ball
9 (day); 0 (night)

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For Black aides, Jan. 6 brought particular trauma

By Luke Broadwater
The New York Times

WASHINGTON — Jabir McKnight woke up on the morning of Jan. 6 with an uneasy feeling.

The day before had been great: He and another congressional staff member had celebrated Founders Day for their historically Black fraternity, Kappa Alpha Psi. But as Mr. McKnight walked that Wednesday to Capitol Hill, where he had always felt safe, images of white supremacist violence in Charleston, S.C., and Charlottesville, Va., began to race through his head.

Hours before the violent, pro-Trump mob rampaged through the halls of Congress, leaving nearly 140 police officers injured and five people dead, Mr. McKnight said he could not shake the sense that something very bad was about to happen.

"The writing was on the wall for this," said Mr. McKnight, 23, who is the communications director for Rep. Sheila Jackson Lee, D-Texas.

He pointed to examples of right-wing violence in recent months and years.

"For Black staffers, it's a little bit different, because a lot of these attacks are directed toward our people," he said. "We've seen these things happen over and over and over again. I don't think we were blinded that people who are domestic terrorists would say, 'Oh, it's the Capitol, we'll stop there.'"

Symbols of racism and white supremacy were on full display at the Capitol on Jan. 6. Rioters paraded the Confederate battle flag through the halls. One man wore a "Camp Auschwitz" sweatshirt; others flew the flag of the fictional country Kekistan, which mimics a Nazi war flag.

Black Capitol Police officers have described the intense racism they endured from the mob; one told BuzzFeed News he was called a racist slur 15 times, causing him to break down in tears.

Only a small percentage of congressional aides are Black. Since the attack, Mr. McKnight and others who were in nearby offices in the Capitol complex that day have been talking among themselves about how close the violence came to them, what it means to experience such a virulent expression of racism in what is supposed to be a citadel of liberty, and the suspicion they now feel toward other aides, members of Congress and random people they encounter as they go about their business on Capitol Hill.

"It makes the trauma worse," Mr. McKnight said. "Because as you're walking around, you don't know who could have been involved with what."

For some Black staff members, the Capitol attack brought back memories of how they had tried to avoid people they felt could be prone to racist violence — only to find them at their place of work.

"This was the ugliest display of racism that I've seen



Congressional staff members Jabir McKnight, left, Mike McQuerry, center, and Remington Belford sit on the House steps at the Capitol in Washington. They were all in the Capitol during the mob violence on Jan. 6.

ever. And I'm from the South," said Remington Belford, 30, the communications director for Rep. Yvette Clarke, D-N.Y. "There's a specific demographic of people that you know conduct themselves that way, and you find your way away from them. Those people came to Capitol Hill. The people who believe in supremacy due to genetics were on Capitol Hill, and they were armed, and they were incensed."

The staff members described feelings of fear about the physical threat and anger about the psychic damage done by the mob.

"I never thought I'd see the Confederate flag walked through the halls of Congress," said Mike McQuerry, 50, the communications director for Del. Stacey Plaskett, D-Virgin Islands and an impeachment manager in the trial of former President Donald Trump. "As much as we think we've had progress, we haven't progressed that much."

Mr. McQuerry said that white rioters, using force and rage, gained access to parts of the Capitol that had always been off-limits to him, like House Speaker Nancy Pelosi's office or the floor of the Senate.

"Those insurgents got to places where we as staffers couldn't go," he said, "places we wouldn't even think about going."

Mr. McKnight, Mr. Belford and Mr. McQuerry watched the violence from fortified offices in the Rayburn Building on the House side of the Capitol complex.

"The fear was very present," Mr. Belford said, adding that he had planned two escape routes, including rushing through a window. "As far as close? They were steps away. Let's be very clear. There's no force that protects us in Rayburn" once the rioters breached the Capitol.

"We were fortified in our



A rioter carries a Confederate flag on Jan. 6 in the Capitol in Washington.

offices," Mr. McKnight said. "You don't know what's on the other side of the door. You never knew what was on the other side. We were worried about any sound we heard. Are they here? Are they in the building? The only time you would have known is when it was too late. Everyone was terrified."

As they watched the mayhem, aides said, they feared for their lives, realizing that they, as well as lawmakers, could be attacked.

After the siege, congressional aides have reported trouble sleeping and feeling anxious, claustrophobic, angry and depressed. Lawmakers have requested additional resources to support the mental health needs of employees in response to surging demand.

"It was the first time I realized that post-traumatic stress syndrome is a thing," said Mr. Belford, who is from Houston. "We as staffers are still dealing with the trauma."

Despite what they experienced that day, Mr. McQuerry, who is from Detroit, said staff members felt an obligation to push on with work.

"There's not that many of us that work up here," he said of Black aides to members of Congress. "It's

affected us tremendously. We have to just push through. I think we deal with it every day. PTSD is really real."

of the most vocal against Trump's harmful and divisive practices," Mr. Belford said. "The fear was very present. We cannot blend in. We cannot not be visible. Our skin color often becomes a target."

They were reminded last week of the threats to lawmakers when a top security official suggested on Tuesday that members of Congress consider upgrading their home security systems to include panic buttons and key fobs. In a lengthy memo sent to House lawmakers and their aides, Timothy Blodgett, the acting sergeant-at-arms, reiterated measures that he advised lawmakers to take to protect their Washington and district offices and their homes.

The guidance — which encouraged refraining from posting about lawmakers' appearances at events until after they have "safely left," using special hoods to reduce exposure to "harmful materials" sent by mail and installing panic buttons in lawmakers' homes — starkly illustrated the continuing shock waves after the Jan. 6 attack.

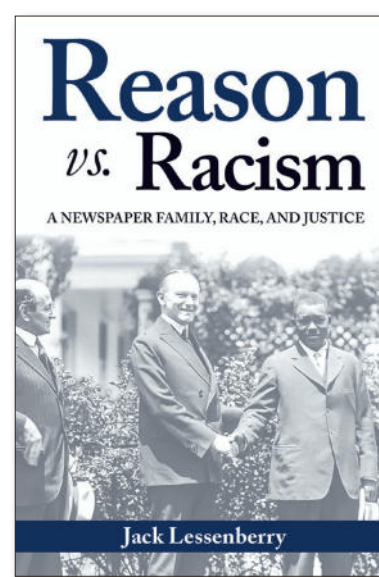
Lawmakers have received briefings on a handful of specific active threats to the Capitol and to members after the attack, and court documents have detailed plans by individuals in the pro-Trump mob to kill specific members of Congress.

One man threatened to put "a bullet" in Ms. Pelosi's head; another threatened to assassinate Rep. Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez, D-N.Y., that day, according to federal prosecutors.

As traumatizing as the riot was, the staff members said they had also received an outpouring of support.

During the attack, Ms. Plaskett tweeted a photograph of her staff, including Mr. McQuerry, telling the public they were safe. Mr. McQuerry said he received a flood of texts containing messages such as "I love you" and "be safe."

A NEWSPAPER FAMILY, RACE, AND JUSTICE



American journalism historian Patrick Washburn said of "Reason vs. Racism," by Jack Lessenberry, "Written in a highly entertaining fashion, the author combines a good knowledge of Black American history and the inner editorial workings of newspapers to show how the two intersected." And in his recent review, University of Pittsburgh History Professor Larry Glasco points out, "On the whole, this is a story the Blocks can be proud of... In an age of rampant racism, Paul Block was remarkable for pledging publicly that his papers would be fair in their reporting."

Extensively researched and expertly written, "Reason vs. Racism" is a must-read for anyone interested in learning how the issue of race has been handled by the Block family of newspaper owners since 1916.

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Biden's \$15 wage proposal: Job killer or boon?

The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — President Joe Biden's effort to raise the federal minimum wage to \$15 an hour could provide a welcome opportunity for someone like Cristian Cardona, a 21-year-old fast food worker. Mr. Cardona would love to earn enough to afford to move out of his parents' house in Orlando, Fla., and maybe scrape together money for college.

More than 1,000 miles away in Detroit, Nya Marshall worries that a \$15 minimum wage would drive up her labor costs and perhaps force her to close her 2-year-old restaurant, already under strain from the viral pandemic.

Between Mr. Cardona's hope and Ms. Marshall's fears lies a roiling public debate, one with enormous consequences for American workers and businesses. Will the Biden administration succeed in enacting a much higher federal minimum wage — and should it? Economists have argued the merits of minimum wage hikes for years.

"The mother of all economic debates" is how economists Michael Feroli and Daniel Silver of JPMorgan Chase describe it.

The administration has cast its campaign to raise the minimum as a way to lift up millions of the working poor, reduce America's vast financial inequity and help boost the economy.

"No American should work full time and live in poverty," said Rosemary Boeglin, a White House spokeswoman. "Research has shown that raising the minimum wage reduces poverty and has positive economic benefits for workers, their families, their communities, and local businesses where they spend those additional dollars."

Yet just this month, the nonpartisan Congressional Budget Office estimated that while raising the minimum wage to \$15 by 2025 would increase pay for 17 million people and pull 900,000 out of poverty, it would also end 1.4 million jobs. The reasoning is that employers would cut jobs to make up for their higher labor costs.

The fate of Mr. Biden's minimum wage proposal remains hazy. Facing resistance in Congress, the president has acknowledged that he will likely have to omit the measure from the \$1.9 trillion COVID-19 financial relief package he is proposing and re-introduce it later as a separate bill.

For years, there was almost no debate at all about a minimum wage. Classical economists had standard advice on imposing or raising minimum wages: Don't. Piling higher labor costs on employers, the thinking went, would force them to cut jobs and end up hurting the very low-wage workers the minimum wage was intended to help.

But groundbreaking research in the 1990s suggested that the Econ 101 version was simplistic at best. Now there is growing confidence



McDonald's employee Cristian Cardona attends a rally in support of a \$15-an-hour minimum wage Tuesday in Orlando, Fla. John Raoux/Associated Press

among economists — though far from a consensus — that lawmakers can mandate sharp increases in the minimum wage without killing large numbers of jobs.

Assessing Mr. Biden's \$15 plan, for instance, economists at Morgan Stanley have concluded that "the impact to employment, positive or negative, would be minimal, while the social benefits to lifting real wages of lower-income earners and millions out of poverty are substantial."

Raising the minimum wage, they said, would also help narrow the chronic economic gap between white Americans on the one hand and Black and Hispanic Americans on the other.

The federal government introduced a minimum wage to a Depression-scarred country in 1938. Though Congress has raised the minimum over time, it hasn't done so for more than 11 years — the longest gap between increases. Adjusted for inflation, \$7.25 in 2009 dollars would be about \$8.80 now. Twenty-nine states and Washington, D.C., have already adopted minimum wages above the federal \$7.25.

The United States lags well behind other developed countries in the size of its minimum wage. In 2018, the U.S. minimum amounted to 33% of the nation's median earnings — dead last among 31 countries in the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development. By contrast, Canada's minimum wage came to 51% of median income; France's, 62%.

Mr. Biden's plan would shake things up entirely. He proposes gradually raising the wage to \$15 an hour by 2025, starting with a jump to \$9.50 this year. Thereafter, it would be indexed to grow at the same rate as the U.S. median wage — the point at which half earn more and



J. Scott Applewhite/Associated Press
House Speaker Nancy Pelosi, D-Calif., joins fellow Democrats and activists seeking better pay July 18, 2019, at the Capitol in Washington. As of Jan. 1, at least 42 cities have set their hourly minimum wages above the federal \$7.25, while 21 states increased their base pay just last year.

half earn less.

Advocates say that raising wages at the bottom of the pay scale would help relieve income inequality, including racial disparities in earnings. The liberal Economic Policy Institute estimates that 31% of African Americans and 26% of Latinos would receive a raise if the federal minimum wage were elevated to \$15 an hour.

Two economists at the University of California, Berkeley, Ellora Derenoncourt and Claire Montielou, reported last year that the expansion of the minimum wage in the 1960s and '70s "played a critical role" in temporarily narrowing the income gap between white and Black workers. They concluded that "minimum wage policy can play a critical role in reducing racial economic disparities."

Expert thinking on the minimum wage began to change with the publication in 1993 of a paper by economists David Card and Alan Krueger, then both at Princeton University. Before then, economists had worried that their theoretical models did not account for the complexity of the job market.

"What that means is that middle- and higher-income consumers are, in fact, subsidizing low-wage workers. That's a feature, not a bug."

Second, he said, the higher a wage, the less likely it is that employees will quit. So a higher federal minimum could reduce high turnover at, say, fast-food outlets and make them more productive. Employers wouldn't have to constantly scramble to find and train new employees — a task that consumes time, money and resources.

Speaking with analysts last month, in fact, McDonald's CEO Chris Kempczinski said the fast-food giant would "do just fine" as long as the wage increase applied to everybody.

Yet by more than doubling the federal minimum wage over a few years, Mr. Biden's plan would enter uncharted territory. Mr. Feroli and Mr. Silver of JPMorgan note that most minimum wage increases amount to 5% to 15%. A doubling of the minimum, as Mr. Biden proposes, could potentially exert a more harmful effect on jobs than research has suggested.

Mr. Dube concedes that Mr. Biden runs the risk of raising the minimum wage too high, too fast. Yet he argues that the gradual phase-in would allow policymakers to monitor how the job market is reacting — and to delay further scheduled wage increases if employers responded to their higher costs by cutting jobs.

At a town hall Tuesday night in Milwaukee, Mr. Biden seemed to signal a willingness to settle for a more modest increase in the federal minimum wage.

"I do support a \$15 minimum wage," the president said, "but that's a debatable issue."

"So let's say you said you're going to increase the minimum wage from \$7.25 an hour between now and

"A burger may cost 50 cents more," Mr. Dube said.

the year 2025 to \$12 an hour, to \$13 an hour," Mr. Biden said. "You double someone's pay, and the impact on business would be absolutely diminished."

On Wednesday, the White House said Mr. Biden wasn't suggesting that he would accept a final minimum wage of \$12 or \$13 an hour by 2025 but rather was stressing that a gradual phase-in to \$15 an hour would reduce the impact on businesses.

Critics argue that now isn't the time for a hefty wage increase. Many of the businesses most likely to pay the minimum — restaurants, hotels, movie theaters — have been hardest hit by the pandemic and the lockdowns and other steps meant to contain it.

Consider Ms. Marshall's Detroit restaurant, Ivy Kitchen and Cocktails, already devastated by the coronavirus. Revenue is down 85%. She fears that higher labor costs could deliver the final blow.

"We're not making money; 2020 was a complete loss," Ms. Marshall said. "To impose such a wage increase on us right now would not be a good idea, and a lot of us would just shut down. ... Our doors are barely open."

Then again, the pandemic has also exposed how difficult life is at the bottom of the income ladder. In Orlando, Mr. Cardona makes \$11 an hour as a manager at a McDonald's. Unable to afford a place of his own, he lives with his parents, chipping in for groceries and help on the electric bill. His plans to save for college are on hold indefinitely.

A bump up to \$15 an hour "would definitely be a very nice boost; \$11 is still not a living wage," Mr. Cardona said. "A lot of people who make this wage, they live paycheck to paycheck."

Many of his co-workers, he notes, aren't teenagers making a few bucks after school. They're single mothers or elderly adults, struggling to pay rent, afford utility bills and buy groceries.

As for Mr. Biden's minimum wage proposal, it is up against the Senate's "budget reconciliation" rules, which will likely govern the president's rescue aid package. The reconciliation rules allow legislation to pass with a simple majority vote, not a filibuster-proof majority of 60 senators. But they are supposed to be limited to budgetary matters and likely don't apply to a minimum wage increase.

Should the federal government remain at an impasse, states and localities, which can go beyond the federal minimum, won't necessarily wait around. Twenty-one states increased their minimum wages last year, Morgan Stanley notes.

Cities are getting into the act, too. In a study out this month, Mr. Dube and Attila Lindner of University College London found that 42 cities have set minimum wages above the federal mandate. And 22 of them, including Seattle, Los Angeles and Washington, D.C., are already at \$15 or more — up from just three in 2010.

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Latinos face barriers of fear, language in getting vaccine

The Associated Press

HIALEAH, Fla. — Rigoberto Montesinos, a veteran of the Bay of Pigs invasion in Cuba, was so worried about side effects from the COVID-19 vaccine that he initially wasn't going to get it, relenting only when two friends died from the disease. But when he finally decided to get the shot, the 82-year-old couldn't find doses where he lives in Hialeah, a Miami suburb that's about 95% Latino. He got an appointment in nearby Miami Beach, but it was canceled. After struggling for weeks, Mr. Montesinos got his first dose earlier this month.

"At my age, and with the virus spiking, I can't be putting myself at risk," said Mr. Montesinos, a Cuban exile who helped try to overthrow Fidel Castro in 1961.

From elderly Cuban Americans in Florida to farmworkers in California, Latinos face daunting barriers to getting COVID-19 vaccines, creating risks for public health as the coronavirus mutates and spreads.

America's more than 60 million Latinos — like other people of color — have been disproportionately affected by the virus, and many are struggling with issues like a lack of knowledge about the shots, state vaccine websites that don't have Spanish instructions, ways to find appointments in their communities, and fears they could be targeted by immigration enforcement.

It comes as states, cities and counties are grappling with how to ensure people of color and other underserved communities are getting the vaccine, with some targeting vulnerable ZIP codes and working with community groups to sign people up. In Arizona, where language is a barrier for some Latinos and until recently English was the only option on the state website for vaccine appointments, a university researcher is working on an



Mary Altaffer/Associated Press

Crismely Tinidad, left, housing service coordinator at the Bronx River Community Center, translates as a resident who speaks only Spanish registers with a SOMOS Community Care screener at a pop-up COVID-19 vaccination site in the Bronx, N.Y. Latinos face barriers to getting the vaccines, creating risks for public health as the coronavirus mutates and spreads.

online Spanish-language campaign to address vaccine misconceptions.

Latinos, like other groups, also are frustrated by insufficient vaccine supplies.

Mr. Montesinos' 70-year-old nephew, Luis Morejon, was still trying to get inoculated in the Miami area two weeks ago. He's a cancer patient, and he and his wife also have diabetes.

"We've spent a year hiding in this home," Mr. Morejon said.

An Associated Press-NORC Center for Public Affairs Research poll of U.S. adults in late January showed about half of both Hispanic and Black Americans are extremely or very worried about themselves or family members being infected with COVID-19. That's compared with about 4 in 10

white Americans.

The poll says Latinos' willingness to get the vaccine is similar to the American public overall. About 65% of Latinos said they definitely or probably will get the vaccine or that they already have received at least one dose.

With a tendency for health problems like diabetes, obesity and hypertension, Latinos are one of the groups at highest risk from COVID-19 in the U.S. It's not just a problem for them, but for public health.

"The virus doesn't differentiate; we need to vaccinate everyone," said Arizona State University researcher Gilberto Lopez, who's trying to debunk vaccine misconceptions in Spanish.

In New York, married physicians Dr. Victor

Peralta and Dr. Ingrid Felix-Peralta administered shots this month at a public housing complex through the SOMOS network that provides health care to low-income minorities.

"Latinos make up a large proportion of our front-line workers. They work at supermarkets, restaurants, food industry and they are working during the day so it's hard to find time to get vaccinated," said Dr. Peralta, a pediatrician.

Nellie Hernandez, a 73-year-old Puerto Rican, said that after surviving throat cancer and seeing friends die from COVID-19, she was relieved to get her second dose.

"I go out and run my errands, and I feel a bit more secure," she said.

Fear of deportation can be an issue for Latinos in the

U.S. without permission, although the Department of Homeland Security says vaccination sites will be considered off-limits for routine enforcement.

"We know that we don't always get the correct address and phone number when we see patients," Dr. Peralta said about those at his pediatric practice.

Some politicians say people without legal status should not be prioritized for vaccines, even equating all Hispanics — a majority of whom are American citizens or legal residents — with the fraction of people in the country illegally. Rep. Debbie Lesko, R-Ariz., drew criticism earlier this month after proposing an "Americans first" vaccine policy.

Along with fears of deportation, education also can be

a problem.

Advocates for Guatemalan farmworkers in Lake Worth, Fla., north of Miami, said some migrants can't read or write in any language and most lack a car or driver's license.

The Guatemalan-Maya Center there has started a list of workers who want to be vaccinated and offered its offices as a possible site, assistant executive director Mariana Blanco said.

It's important to consider demographics when setting up vaccination sites, said Tomas Leon, senior vice president of the Arizona-based Equality Health Foundation. He said states need to collect information about the race and ethnicity of those getting shots to ensure equal access.

"Hispanics are overrepresented in coronavirus cases and more likely to suffer worse outcomes," he said.

Many vaccination sites are far away from underserved, high-exposed communities, Mr. Leon said. They're often drive-thru, requiring a car.

"As efforts to distribute the COVID-19 vaccine continue, trust and acceptance of Hispanics will be crucial," Mr. Leon said.

In diverse South Florida, the sprawling Jackson Health System says nearly half of the 65,000 seniors it has vaccinated as of early February identified as Hispanic.

The hospital system has partnered with 55 churches, temples and community organizations targeting seniors in low-income minority communities who have struggled using technology to sign up for a vaccine.

Madeline Barrios spent two recent Sundays with her clipboard outside St. Dominic Catholic Church near Miami's Little Havana, registering older people for the shots.

"I think people feel more comfortable, especially seniors, in person, asking someone they can talk to," Ms. Barrios said.

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Most of Moderna's doses going to wealthy countries

By Emily Rauhala
The Washington Post

In January 2020, a non-profit with a mission to develop and equitably distribute vaccines invested \$900,000 in a promising but untested bit of technology: Moderna's coronavirus vaccine.

Announcing the grant, the Coalition for Epidemic Preparedness Innovations touted an alignment of values, namely a shared commitment to global public health. Documents suggest U.S.-based Moderna agreed to uphold the group's "equitable access principles" — the idea that vaccines should be distributed according to need and at affordable prices.

But more than year later, with the pandemic still raging, Moderna's successful vaccine is anything but accessible. The company has sold most of the early doses to rich countries. Poorer countries have been almost entirely shut out.

Moderna "seems to have refused to allocate or sell any of their supply beyond the wealthiest countries, the most profitable markets," said Stuerie Moon, co-director of the Global Health Center at the Graduate Institute of International and Development Studies in Geneva.

Asked about the \$900,000 grant, equitable access provisions and calls to make the Moderna vaccine widely available, company spokeswoman Colleen Hussey referred The Washington Post to a more than 3-month-old news release about third-quarter financial results, which noted that discussions with Covax — an initiative to equitably distribute vaccines around the world — were "ongoing."

Moderna is certainly not the only coronavirus vaccine maker to enter into deals with rich countries. Just 16% of the world's population has snapped up 60% of



Alexandra Wimley/Post-Gazette
Empty vials of the Moderna COVID-19 vaccine are placed on a counter last month at St. Marys Pharmacy in St. Marys, Elk County. Moderna's vaccine is mostly going to wealthy countries, leaving poorer countries locked out.

doses, according to an estimate from researchers at Duke University.

Moderna's record stands out because none of its doses are yet earmarked for what the World Bank classifies as low-income nations.

Most of its competitors — Pfizer, AstraZeneca, Sanofi and Johnson & Johnson — have already made commitments to Covax, an effort coled by its early backer, CEPI, as well as the World Health Organization and Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance.

CEPI said it is still in talks with Moderna about supplying Covax but did not provide details on where things stand. The WHO, which co-leads Covax and advocates for vaccine access, referred The Post to Gavi, which referred The Post to CEPI.

Moderna, meanwhile, is selling the vast majority of its early doses to high-income buyers, including the United States, the European Union and Canada, where immunization campaigns are already underway.

It is also working with the

Philippines, a lower-middle-income country, and with upper-middle-income countries such as Colombia and potentially Mexico, according to tracking by researchers at Duke University and Airfinity, a research firm. But because those countries are further back in line, it may take time for their doses to arrive.

Advocates for global health are frustrated by the disparities.

"It is being rolled out in rich countries even though an institution committed to equitable access funded it — It's outrageous. It's tragic," said Zain Rizvi, an expert on access to medicine at Public Citizen, a watchdog group.

Part of the issue is supply. Wealthy countries could afford to take risks and cut early deals on unproven technology. Only some of their vaccine bets have paid off. But as a result, they have secured a disproportionate share of projected 2021 supply — leaving the rest of the world to wait.

Then there is the problem

played an important role in the vaccine's development.

"Advances in global public health require the collective effort of public-private partnerships," he said, according to a news release. "No organization can act alone."

Rachel Grant, a spokeswoman for CEPI, which is headquartered in Oslo, said the foundation's "early stage catalytic funding of Moderna was crucial to get the project off the ground."

But CEPI and Moderna did not reach an agreement for second-stage funding. The relationship did not go further, Ms. Grant said, because the company's funding needs were met by what would become the Trump administration's Operation Warp Speed.

Moderna got multiple infusions from the U.S. government. By December, it had received \$4.1 billion for vaccine development, clinical trials and manufacturing, according to the Department of Health and Human Services. On Thursday, President Joe Biden announced he would exercise an option to buy 100 million more doses of Moderna vaccine.

Unlike China and Russia, which have tried to use potential vaccines to bolster their soft power abroad, the Trump White House was solely focused on domestic supply. President Donald Trump opted out of Covax, citing his feud with WHO.

The Biden administration has tried to patch things up with the Geneva-based organization, and Secretary of State Antony Blinken has talked about helping "make sure that others around the world who want [a vaccine] have access to it." Still, the United States remains focused on vaccinating Americans and has not announced plans to share, whether bilaterally or through Covax.

Public health experts have tried to sound the alarm. Scientists warn that

leaving low-income countries waiting for adequate vaccine supply will prolong the pandemic. Economists caution that "vaccine nationalism" could cost the world more than a \$1 trillion a year in GDP.

A coalition called the People's Vaccine Campaign of South Africa recently called on the U.S. government to push Moderna, specifically, to make its coronavirus vaccine more accessible outside the United States.

"The U.S. government helped research and pay for the development of the NIH-Moderna vaccine, yet, as things stand, the company Moderna has unilaterally decided that very few nations will benefit from it," they said in a release.

"We therefore implore you — enforce your rights in this instance and ensure that Moderna and other companies supported by the U.S. government abide by its obligations. Your actions will undoubtedly help to save millions of lives in our country and elsewhere in the global South."

Even while public health organizations call for an end to vaccine nationalism, some seem wary of pushing the companies controlling vaccine supply. Advocates wonder why those tasked with promoting global public health have not called more forcefully for drug companies to disclose the terms of their vaccine contracts, for instance, or urged vaccine makers to transfer know-how to parts of the world in desperate need of vaccine.

Covax "remains in active discussions with Moderna regarding the procurement of the vaccine for global allocation," Ms. Grant said. "And we hope that they will commit to support our mission to ensure global equitable access to COVID-19 vaccines along with the other manufacturers in the Covax portfolio."

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Experts: U.S. needs to brace for more deadly storms

The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Deadly weather will be hitting the U.S. more often, and America had better get better at dealing with it, experts said as Texas and other states battled winter storms that blew past the worst-case planning of utilities, governments and millions of shivering citizens.

Last week's storms fit a pattern of worsening extremes under climate change and demonstrate anew that local, state and federal officials have failed to do nearly enough to prepare for greater and more dangerous weather.

"This is a different kind of storm," said Kendra Clements, one of several businesspeople in Oklahoma City who opened their buildings to shelter homeless people, some with frostbite, hypothermia and icicles in their hair. It was also a harbinger of what social service providers and governments said will be a surge of increased needs for society's most vulnerable as climate and natural disasters worsen.

Other Americans are at risk as well. Power supplies of all sorts failed in the extreme cold, including natural gas-fired power plants that were knocked offline amid icy conditions and, to a smaller extent, wind turbines that froze and stopped working. More than 100 million people live in areas under winter weather warnings, watches or advisories, and blackouts are expected to continue in some parts of the country for days.

The crisis sounded an alarm for power systems throughout the country: As climate change worsens, severe conditions that go beyond historical norms are becoming ever more common. Texas, for example, expects power demand to peak in the heat of summer, not the depths of winter, as it did last week.



People line up Tuesday to fill their empty propane tanks in Houston after a winter storm that brought snow, ice and plunging temperatures across the southern Plains and caused a power emergency in Texas. Deadly weather like this week's storm is expected to hit the U.S. more often, experts say, and governments will have to improve their response.

Brett Coomer/Houston Chronicle via AP

The dire storms come as President Joe Biden aims to spend up to \$2 trillion on infrastructure and clean energy investment over four years. Mr. Biden has pledged to update the U.S. power grid to be carbon-pollution free by 2035 as well as weatherize buildings, repair roads and build electric vehicle charging stations.

"Building resilient and sustainable infrastructure that can withstand extreme weather and a changing climate will play an integral role" in creating jobs and meeting Mr. Biden's goal of "a net-zero emissions future," White House press secretary Jen Psaki said.

The storms were big news last week, especially in light

of their effect on COVID-19 vaccinations as well as freezing Americans, but that doesn't mean they won't become more common, experts said.

"This definitely was an anomaly," but one that is likely to occur more frequently as a result of climate change, said Sara Eftekharijad, assistant professor of electrical engineering and computer science at Syracuse University.

"There probably needs to be better planning, because we're starting to see more extreme weather events across the country," she said, whether it's severe cold in Texas or the intense heat wave in California last year that fueled deadly wildfires.

Better forecasting — both short term and long term — would help avoid catastrophic failures such as the current outages in Texas and other states, as would large-scale storage systems that can supply electricity when demand spikes and a greater diversity of power sources, Ms. Eftekharijad and other experts said.

Climate change also is hurting military readiness. Damage from a 2018 hurricane at Tyndall Air Force Base in Florida and 2019 flooding at Nebraska's Offutt Air Force Base, for example, led the Pentagon to send service members as far away as Britain to train.

Another 2018 hurricane that hit North Carolina's

Camp Lejeune, home to one-third of the U.S. Marine Corps' capability, caused enough damage to degrade training overall, senior U.S. military authorities said.

Hardening military installations against worsening natural disasters will cost trillions. But it has to be done, said Joan VanDervort, a former longtime Defense Department climate expert now with the Center for Climate and Security think tank. "We have eyes overseas that are looking at our vulnerability and seeing how we respond. ... There are enemies out there that will certainly take advantage of it."

Michael Craig, an assistant professor of energy

systems at the University of Michigan, said the events in California and Texas show that "what we have now is not going to do it in the face of climate change. It's only going to get worse from here."

The disaster in Texas and other states "is a reminder that our nation's critical infrastructure is vulnerable to extreme weather events and we can no longer turn a blind eye to the resiliency investments needed to protect it," said Sen. Tom Carper, D-Del., chairman of the Senate Environment and Public Works Committee, who met with Mr. Biden at the White House earlier this month.

"The cost associated with addressing climate change and improving our infrastructure's resilience is always going to be less than the cost of rebuilding or failing to act," Mr. Carper said.

Meanwhile, federal regulators are looking into the operations of the bulk-power system during the severe winter storm that affected states from Louisiana to Minnesota.

In Texas, where wind power is a growing source of electricity, the wind turbines generally are not equipped to withstand extended low temperatures, as they are in Iowa and other cold-weather states. Modifying the turbines slightly to withstand freezing temperatures is one step needed to confront climate change, said Roy McCann, professor of electrical engineering at the University of Arkansas.

While some Republican politicians, including Texas Gov. Greg Abbott, have tried to pin blame on wind and solar power for the outages, traditional thermal power plants, which rely mostly on natural gas, provide the bulk of power in the state and were the larger problem.

"The entire system was overwhelmed," said Joshua Rhodes, a research associate on energy issues at the University of Texas.

Cultural 'big deal': Seal oil on the menu at Alaska care home

The Associated Press

ANCHORAGE, Alaska — Seal oil has been a staple in the diet of Alaska's Inupiat for generations.

The oil — ever-present in households dotting Alaska coastlines — is used mainly as a dipping sauce for fish, caribou and musk ox. It's also used to flavor stews and even eaten alone.

But when Inupiat elders entered nursing homes, they were cut off from the comfort food. State regulations didn't allow seal oil because it's among traditionally prepared Alaska Native foods that have been associated with the state's high rate of botulism, which can cause illness or death.

That's changing for 18 residents at Utuqqanaat Inaat — in English, a place for elders — a part of the Maniilaq Health Association in the Chukchi Sea community of Kotzebue, about 550 miles northwest of Anchorage. The association has worked with partners in Alaska and the Lower 48 to develop a process to kill the toxin in seal oil and make it safe for consumption.

Last month, Alaska's Department of Environmental Conservation approved its use in elder homes, believed to be a first for seal oil in the U.S.

Maniilaq staff members and an ad hoc seal oil task force worked for more than five years with two universities to develop a way to eliminate the botulinum toxin without dramatically changing the taste or reducing the nutritional value of seal oil.

The effort began when Maniilaq was in the early stages of starting a traditional food program, said Chris Dankmeyer, its environmental health manager and a commissioned officer with the U.S. Public Health Service.

"The No. 1 crucial food



Cyrus Harris, left, and Joanna Barton separate seal blubber strips from the rendered oil by using a cloth filtration process in Kotzebue, Alaska.

that everybody wanted was seal oil, but we weren't able to give them that," he said.

Discussions were initiated to determine the safety risk of seal oil and possible ways to control it.

Most seal oil comes from subsistence hunters who are allowed by the U.S. government to harvest bearded, ringed and spotted seals in the Kotzebue area and to donate what they collect to nonprofits and other facilities.

Botulism has always been controlled by heat, but the questions for those involved in the seal oil project were how high should the heat be and how long should it be applied to destroy the toxin.

"You know, we could boil it, but that's going to change the whole characterization, the whole nutritional value of seal oil," Mr. Dankmeyer said. "That's not what we wanted."

Seal oil was shipped to the University of Wisconsin, where it was spiked with different toxins and tested at varying levels of heat and lengths of time. Researchers discovered that heating seal oil at 176 degrees for 2½ minutes destroys the toxins.

To be extra safe, they decided to heat the oil for 10 minutes then keep it frozen so it doesn't produce any additional toxins.

Cyrus Harris, hunter support and natural resources advocate for Maniilaq, said staff members at the Utuqqanaat Inaat facility must now be trained about safe handling, a process that is being slowed by the pandemic. Still, he expects seal oil will be available at the facility soon.

Elders at the facility, who range from their 60s to their 90s, have gotten tastes of seal oil in the past when relatives brought them food and it didn't pass through the facility's kitchen, where it would have been subject to state regulations.

But now the residents are excited about the prospect of having the oil anytime they want it, said Marcella Wilson, current administrator of the facility.

"They consider it a part of them, their being," she said about the elders, recalling that some have said they "feel warm inside" and sleep all night after eating it.

"It's a big deal culturally," Ms. Wilson said.





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Gleb Danilov via The New York Times

Love Dalen, left, a paleogeneticist at the Centre for Palaeogenetics in Stockholm, and Patricia Pernerova, an evolutionary biologist at the University of Copenhagen, hold up a mammoth tusk on Wrangel Island, near Siberia. Genomic data — the oldest ever recovered from a fossil — reveals the origin and evolution of the Columbian mammoth.

Million-year-old DNA rewrites the mammoth family tree

By Katherine Kornei
The New York Times

Imagine an elephant, but significantly taller and heavier and with longer tusks. That's the Columbian mammoth, an imposing animal that roamed much of North America during the most recent ice age.

When it comes to the mammoth family tree, it has long been believed that the Columbian mammoth evolved earlier than the smaller, shaggier woolly mammoth. But now, using DNA that is more than 1 million years old — the oldest ever recovered from a fossil — researchers have turned that assumption on its head: They found that the Columbian mammoth is in fact a hybrid of the woolly mammoth and a previously unrecognized mammoth lineage.

These results were published Wednesday in the journal *Nature*.

Mammoths are depicted in many cave paintings, a reflection of their importance as a source of food, skin and bone during the Pleistocene epoch. During the last ice age, humans living in what is today the United States would have primarily encountered the Columbian mammoth, said Love Dalen, a paleogeneticist at the Centre for Palaeogenetics in Stockholm.

"It's an iconic species of the last ice age," he said.

Fossilized remains of mammoths, particularly those preserved in exquisite detail, can shed light on how these animals lived and died. But analyzing an ancient

creature's genetic code — by recovering its DNA and reassembling it into a genome — opens up vast new research possibilities, said David Diez-del-Molino, another paleogeneticist at the Centre for Palaeogenetics. "You can track the origin of species."

A team of researchers, including Mr. Dalen and Mr. Diez-del-Molino, recently set out to do just that using three mammoth molars unearthed in northeastern Siberia.

These teeth are old — about 700,000 years, 1.1 million years and 1.2 million years — and they're also impressive to look at, Mr. Dalen said. "They're the size of a carton of milk."

The researchers started by extracting a bit of material from the interior of each tooth with a small dentist's drill. They then used chemicals and enzymes, followed by a washing protocol, to isolate the DNA in the resulting tooth powder.

Most of the DNA they extracted consisted of sequences just a few tens of base pairs long. That is to be expected because the passage of time is tough on DNA molecules. Bacteria and enzymes chop up DNA after an organism dies, and water and cosmic rays continue the degradation process even after a sample is buried in permafrost.

Strands that start out millions of base pairs long soon degrade, said Patricia Pernerova, an evolutionary biologist at the University of Copenhagen and a researcher on the team. "The DNA is very fragmented," she said.

But before everything can be put back together digitally, it's necessary to decontaminate each sample, said Tom van der Valk, another team member and a bioinformatician at the Science for Life Laboratory in Stockholm. That's because DNA from plants, bacteria and humans is wildly adept at sneaking into fossils, he said. "A large fraction of our data doesn't come from the mammoth."

To weed out interloping DNA, the team compared the sequences with genetic code from an African elephant, a close relative of mammoths. They discarded anything that didn't match. Furthermore, they threw out sequences that matched the human genome.

After removing the non-mammoth DNA, the team was left with between 49 million and 3.7 billion base pairs in each of their three samples. (The mammoth genome is roughly 3.2 billion base pairs, which is slightly larger than the human genome.) The researchers compared their data with African elephant DNA a second time, which allowed them to put all their DNA fragments in the correct order.

This mammoth DNA smashes the record for the oldest DNA ever sequenced, which was previously held by a roughly 700,000-year-old horse specimen, said Morten Allentoft, an evolutionary biologist at Curtin University in Perth, Australia, who was not involved in the research. "It's the oldest DNA that's ever been authentically identified," he said.

When the researchers looked at the three genomes they reconstructed, the oldest stood out. "The genome looked weird," Mr. Dalen said. "I think it's likely this is a different species."

That was a shock: Researchers have long believed that there was only a single lineage of mammoths in Siberia that gave rise to woolly and Columbian mammoths. This discovery suggests that a previously undiscovered mammoth lineage existed as well.

"It's a huge surprise," Mr. Dalen said. "It's completely unexpected from the paleontology that there would be a second lineage."

The team next compared the three genomes with the genetics of the Columbian mammoth, which ambled across much of North America as recently as 12,000 years ago. The goal was to determine how, if at all, these two species were related.

They found persuasive evidence that the woolly mammoth and this new, unknown lineage crossbred to form the Columbian mammoth, a hybrid species.

No one knows where and for how long this new mammoth lineage thrived, Mr. van der Valk said. "It'd be absolutely amazing if we could get a few more samples of this lineage."

There's also the possibility of reconstructing older and older DNA, Mr. Dalen said. They won't re-create Jurassic Park, he said, but theoretical models suggest that DNA might survive for up to a few million years. "I don't think we're at the limit yet."

Study shows some dinosaur migrations delayed by climate

The Associated Press

Plant-eating dinosaurs probably arrived in the Northern Hemisphere millions of years after their meat-eating cousins, a delay likely caused by climate change, a new study found.

A new way of calculating the dates of dinosaur fossils found in Greenland shows that fossils of the plant eaters, called sauropodomorphs, were about 215 million years old, according to a study in Monday's Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences. The fossils previously were thought to be as old as 228 million years.

That changes how scientists think about dinosaur migration.

The earliest dinosaurs all seemed to first develop in what's now South America about 230 million years ago or longer. They then wandered north and all over the globe. The new study suggests not all dinosaurs could migrate at the same time.

So far, scientists haven't found any example of the earliest plant-eating dinosaur family in the Northern Hemisphere that's more than 215 million years old. One of the best examples of these is the plateosaurus, a two-legged, 23-foot vegetarian that weighed 8,800 pounds.

Yet scientists find meat-eaters were pretty much worldwide by at least 220 million years ago, said Randy Irmis, a paleontologist at the University of Utah, who wasn't part of the research.

The plant eaters "were late comers in the Northern Hemisphere," said study lead author Dennis Kent, of Columbia University. "What took them so long?"

Mr. Kent figured out what probably happened by looking at the atmosphere and climate at the time. During the Triassic era, 230 million years ago, carbon dioxide levels were 10 times higher than now.

It was a hotter world with no ice sheets at the poles and two bands of extreme deserts north and south of the equator, he said.

It was so dry in those regions that there were not enough plants for the sauropodomorphs to survive the journey, but there were enough insects that meat-eaters could, Mr. Kent said.

But then about 215 million years ago, carbon dioxide levels briefly dropped in half; that allowed the deserts to have a bit more plant life, and the sauropodomorphs were able to make the trip.

Mr. Kent and other scientists said Triassic changes in carbon dioxide levels were from volcanoes and other natural forces — unlike now, when the burning of coal, oil and natural gas are the main drivers.

Mr. Kent used changes in Earth's magnetism in the soil to pinpoint the more exact date of the Greenland fossils. That highlighted the migration time gap, said several outside experts both in dinosaurs and in ancient climate.

Mr. Kent's theory about climatic change being the difference in dinosaur migration "is super cool because it brings it back to contemporary issues," said Mr. Irmis.

It also fits with some animals around today that have migratory issues that keep them away from certain climates, said Hans-Otto Portner, a climate scientist and biologist at the Alfred Wegener Institute in Germany who wasn't part of the study.

While the study makes sense, there is one potential flaw, said University of Chicago dinosaur expert Paul Sereno. Just because no fossils of plant-eaters older than 215 million years have been found in the Northern Hemisphere, that doesn't mean there were no sauropodomorphs. The fossils just may not have survived, he said.



Randall Irmis via AP

Plant-eating dinosaurs such as the plateosaurus, seen as a model here at the State Museum of Natural History in Stuttgart, Germany, probably arrived in the Northern Hemisphere millions of years later than their meat-eating cousins, according to a study published this week.

SHERIFF'S SALE *William P. Mullen - Sheriff*

Abstracts of properties taken in execution upon the writs shown, at the numbers and terms shown, as the properties of the severally named defendants, owners or reputed owners, and to be sold by William P. Mullen, Sheriff of Allegheny County, Pennsylvania, on **MONDAY, MARCH 1ST, 2021** at 9:00 A.M., at Room 410 (Gold Room), Fourth Floor, Court House, City of Pittsburgh.

CONDITIONS OF SALE

Effective with the August 3, 2020 Sheriff Sale of real estate and all such monthly public sales thereafter shall be conducted virtually through video conferencing technology or live streaming. The Allegheny County Sheriff's Office shall provide for up to twenty-five persons to participate in person with physical distancing in the Gold Room, 4th Floor Allegheny County Courthouse. **ALL PARTICIPANTS OR BIDDERS MUST BE REGISTERED AT LEAST 7 DAYS BEFORE THE DATE OF THE SALE IN ORDER TO PARTICIPATE (VIRTUALLY OR IN PERSON) AT THE ALLEGHENY COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE SALES OF REAL ESTATE.** REGISTRATION WILL BE AVAILABLE ON THE ALLEGHENY COUNTY SHERIFF'S WEBSITE: SHERIFFALLEGHENYCOUNTY.COM. The Successful bidder will pay full amount of bid in CASH, CERTIFIED CHECK OR CASHIERS CHECK at time of sale, otherwise the property will be resold at the next regular Sheriff's Sale; provided, that if the sale is made on **MONDAY, MARCH 1ST, 2021** the bidder may pay ten percent of purchasing price but not less than \$75.00 in CASH, CERTIFIED CHECK, OR CASHIERS CHECK THE DAY IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING THE SALE, e.g. Tuesday,

March 2nd, 2021 BETWEEN THE HOURS OF 8:30AM AND 2:30PM IN THE ALLEGHENY COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE. And the balance in CASH, CERTIFIED CHECK, OR CASHIERS CHECK, on or before **MONDAY, MARCH 8TH, 2021** at 10:00 O'CLOCK A.M. The property will be resold at the next regular Sheriff's Sale if the balance is not paid, and in such case all money's paid in at the original sale shall be applied to any deficiency in the price of which property is resold, and provided further that if the successful bidder is the plaintiff in the execution the bidder shall pay full amount of bid ON OR BEFORE THE FIRST MONDAY OF THE FOLLOWING MONTH, OTHERWISE WRIT WILL BE RETURNED AND MARKED "REAL ESTATE UNSOLD" and all monies advanced by plaintiff will be applied as required by COMMON PLEAS COURT RULE 3129.2 (1) (a)

FORFEITED SALES WILL BE POSTED IN THE SHERIFF'S OFFICE AND LISTED ON THE SHERIFF OF ALLEGHENY COUNTY WEB SITE.

AMENDMENT OF THE CODE SECOND CLASS COUNTY NEW CHAPTER 485

THE ALLEGHENY COUNTY CODE OF ORDINANCES, CHAPTER 475, ENTITLED TAXATION IS HEREBY AMENDED THROUGH THE CREATION OF A NEW ARTICLE XII, ENTITLED, "SHERIFF SALES", AND COMPRISED AS FOLLOWS:
SUBSECTION 475-60: RECORDING OF DEEDS AND NOTIFICATION OF SHERIFFS SALES TO TAXING BODIES.
A. FOR ANY REAL PROPERTY OFFERED AT SHERIFFS SALE DUE TO NONPAYMENT OF REAL ESTATE TAXES AND PURCHASED BY

A THIRD PARTY THROUGH SUCH SALE, THE SHERIFF SHALL BE RESPONSIBLE FOR FILING THE DEED AND, WITHIN SEVEN DAYS OF FILING OF THE SHERIFFS DEED, PROVIDE WRITTEN NOTICE OF THE CONVEYANCE TO THE ALLEGHENY COUNTY OFFICE OF PROPERTY ASSESSMENTS. THE WRITTEN NOTICE REQUIRED PURSUANT TO THIS SUBSECTION SHALL INCLUDE THE DATE OF THE SALE, IDENTIFICATION OF THE PROPERTY SOLD BY BOTH ADDRESS AND LOT AND BLOCK NUMBER, AND THE NAME AND ADDRESS OF THE INDIVIDUALS OR OTHER ENTITY THAT PURCHASED THE PROPERTY.

B. AT THE TIME OF THE SALE THE SHERIFF SHALL COLLECT ALL REQUISITE FILING COSTS, REALTY TRANSFER TAXES AND FEES, NECESSARY TO PROPERLY RECORD THE DEED.

C. WITHIN SEVEN DAYS OF RECEIPT OF WRITTEN NOTICE FROM THE SHERIFF, THE ALLEGHENY COUNTY OFFICE OF PROPERTY ASSESSMENTS SHALL FORWARD COPIES OF SUCH NOTICE TO ALL TAXING BODIES LEVYING REAL ESTATE TAXES ON THE PROPERTY DESCRIBED, INCLUDING BUT NOT LIMITED TO THE MUNICIPALITY AND SCHOOL DISTRICT WHERE THE PROPERTY IS LOCATED.

AS REQUIRED BY SECTION 14 OF ACT NO. 77 OF 1986, THE COST OF ALL DOCUMENTARY STAMPS FOR REAL ESTATE TRANSFER TAXES (STATE, LOCAL, AND SCHOOL) WILL BE DEDUCTED BY THE SHERIFF FROM THE PROCEEDS OF THE SALE. Purchasers must record

their deeds and pay the necessary recording fees. Pursuant to Rule 3136 P.R.C.P. NOTICE is hereby given that a schedule of distribution will be filed by the Sheriff not later than 30 days from date of sale and that distribution will be made in accordance with the schedule unless exceptions are filed thereto within 10 days thereafter. No further notice of the filing of the schedule of distribution will be given.

A Land Bank formed under 68 Pa. C.S.A. 2101 et seq. may exercise its right to bid pursuant to 68 Pa. C.S.A. 2117(d) (2) through Pa. C.S.A. 2117(d) (4) on certain properties listed for sale under the municipal claims and Tax Lien Law, 53 P.S. 7101 et seq. The Sheriff of Allegheny County will honor the terms of payment which the Land Bank has entered with any municipalities having a claim against the property. If the Land Bank tenders a bid under Pa. C.S.A. 2117(d)(3) or 2117(d)(4) the property will not be offered for sale to others and the Property will be considered sold to the Land Bank for the Upset Price as defined in P.S.7279 and no other bids will be accepted.

NOTICE IS GIVEN THAT ALL SHERIFFS DEEDS TENDERED TO PURCHASERS WILL CONTAIN THE FOLLOWING:

"This document may not sell, convey, transfer, include, or insure the title to the coal and right of support underneath the surface land described or referred to herein and the owner or owners of such coal may have the complete legal right to remove all of such coal, and in that connection damage may result to the surface of the land, any house, building or other structure on or in such land."

Avalon	Avalon	Avalon	Avalon	Bethel Park	Bethel Park	Bethel Park	Bethel Park	Bethel Park	Bethel Park
021.- Borough of Avalon vs. Beverly J. Gruarin. GD-20-002398 \$5,735.74 Joseph W. Gramc, Esquire, 437 Grant Street, 14th Floor, Pittsburgh, PA 15219, (412) 281-0587.	one half story commercial building being known and numbered as 730 Ohio River Boulevard, Pittsburgh, PA 15202, Deed Book Volume 8089, page 338, Block and Lot Number 159-H-281.	Street, 14th Floor, Pittsburgh, PA 15219, (412) 281-0587. In the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, County of Allegheny: Borough of Avalon , having erected thereon a two story frame house being known and numbered as 722 Ohio River Boulevard, Pittsburgh, PA 15202, Deed Book Volume 8114, page	141, Block and Lot Number 159-G-25. Bethel Park 001.- Municipality of Bethel Park vs. David S. Condre. GD-19-015004 \$1,929.26 Robert J. Garvin, Esquire, 437 Grant Street, Suite 1806, Pittsburgh, PA 15219, (412) 281-1119.	vania, County of Allegheny: Municipality of Bethel Park , having erected thereon a one and one-half story frame house and garage being known and numbered as 2307 Longcrest Avenue, Bethel Park, PA 15102, Deed Book Volume 9558, page 414, Block and Lot Number 317-N-169.	Curtis James. GD-20-003077 \$4,954.96 Joseph W. Gramc, Esquire, 437 Grant Street, 14th Floor, Pittsburgh, PA 15219, (412) 281-0587.	In the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, County of Allegheny: Municipality of Bethel Park , being thereon vacant land known as Elm Street,	023.- Municipality of Bethel Park vs. Felice Perri & Sons. GD-20-008419 \$3,271.91 Joseph W. Gramc, Esquire, 437 Grant Street, 14th Floor, Pittsburgh, PA 15219, (412) 281-0587.	024.- Municipality of Bethel Park vs. Unknown Heirs of Frank M. Pelone,	deceased. GD-20-008399 \$5,628.80 Joseph W. Gramc, Esquire, 437 Grant Street, 14th Floor, Pittsburgh, PA 15219, (412) 281-0587.

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Bethel Park

as Clifton Road, Bethel Park, PA 15102, Deed Book Volume 3796, page 219, Block and Lot Number 888-C-300.

025.- Municipality of Bethel Park vs. Unknown Heirs of James S. Parsons, Deceased and Unknown Heirs of Mary E. Parsons, Deceased. GD-20-008418 \$7,657.28

Joseph W. Gramc, Esquire, 437 Grant Street, 14th Floor, Pittsburgh, PA 15219, (412) 281-0587.

In the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, County of Allegheny: **Municipality of Bethel Park.** Parcel One: being thereon vacant land known as Delaware Avenue, Bethel Park, PA 15102, Deed Book Volume 2539, page 295, Block and Lot Number 666-B-110. Parcel Two: being thereon vacant land known as Fairview Drive, Bethel Park, PA 15102, Deed Book Volume 2539, page 295, Block and Lot Number 666-B-110.

Castle Shannon

032.- James R. McDonough and Rosemarie A. McDonough. MG-19-001282 \$103,713.60

Stern and Eisenberg, PC., 1581 Main Street, Suite 200, The Shops at Valley Square, Warrington, PA 18976, (215) 572-8111.

In the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, County of Allegheny: **Borough of Castle Shannon,** having erected thereon a dwelling being known and numbered as 910 Newport Drive, Pittsburgh, PA 15234, Deed Book Volume 8303, page 126, Block and Lot Number 190-B-231.

Chalfant

014.- Joann Martin and Richard R. Morgan. MG-20-000397 \$107,079.66

Stern and Eisenberg, PC., 1581 Main Street, Suite 200, The Shops at Valley Square, Warrington, PA 18976, (215) 572-8111.

In the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, County of Allegheny: **Borough of Chalfant,** having erected thereon a dwelling being known and numbered as 264 Brighton Street, East Pittsburgh, PA 15112, Deed Book Volume 12662, page 78, Instrument Number 2005-39185, Block and Lot Number 374-M-37.

Duquesne

028.- Gregg Andreaco. MG-19-000873 \$41,031.44

Jeffrey A. Golvash, Esquire, Golvash & Epstein, LLC, 9 Dewalt Avenue, Pittsburgh, PA 15227, (412) 882-4717.

In the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, County of Allegheny: **City of Duquesne,** having erected thereon a dwelling being known and numbered as 705 Richford Street, Duquesne, PA 15110, Deed Book Volume 15051, page 119, Block and Lot Number 304-G-56.

Elizabeth Borough

038.- County of Allegheny vs. Monogahela Enterprises, Inc. GD-20-001877 \$9,551.44

Joseph W. Gramc, Esquire, 437 Grant Street, 14th Floor, Pittsburgh, PA 15219, (412) 281-0587.

In the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, County of Allegheny: **Township of Elizabeth,** being thereon vacant commercial land known as Weddell Road, Elizabeth, PA 15037, Deed Book Volume 3768, page 69, Block and Lot Number 1903-L-28.

Elizabeth Township

002.- John A. Marino as Administrator of the Estate of Robert J. Marino, Deceased. MG-20-000001 \$10,224.86

Elizabeth Township

\$96,765.04
KML Law Group, PC., 701 Market Street, BNY Mellon Independence Center, Suite 5000, Philadelphia, PA 19106, (215) 627-1322.

In the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, County of Allegheny: **Township of Elizabeth,** being thereon vacant land known as Greenock Buena Vista Road, Elizabeth, PA 15037, Deed Book Volume 65, page 372, Block and Lot Number 118-C-299.

Emsworth

037.- County of Allegheny vs. William G. Anderson, With Notice to Heirs & Assigns & Martha Anderson, With Notice to Heirs & Assigns. GD-20-009283 \$5,433.24

Joseph W. Gramc, Esquire, 437 Grant Street, 14th Floor, Pittsburgh, PA 15219, (412) 281-0587.

In the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, County of Allegheny: **Borough of Emsworth,** being thereon vacant commercial land known as Herron Avenue, Pittsburgh, PA 15202, Deed Book Volume 2058, page 409, Block and Lot Number 213-G-200.

Franklin Park

026.- County of Allegheny vs. Unknown Heirs of Walden T. Kress, Jr. and Unknown Heirs of William Anderson. GD-20-004390 \$9,935.35

Joseph W. Gramc, Esquire, 437 Grant Street, 14th Floor, Pittsburgh, PA 15219, (412) 281-0587.

In the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, County of Allegheny: **Township of Elizabeth,** being thereon vacant land known as Greenock Buena Vista Road, Elizabeth, PA 15037, Deed Book Volume 10538, page 495, Block and Lot 997-F-398.

Brian D. Svana.

MG-19-000096 \$186,459.45
Stern and Eisenberg, PC., 1581 Main Street, Suite 200, The Shops at Valley Square, Warrington, PA 18976, (215) 572-8111.

In the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, County of Allegheny: **Township of Elizabeth,** having erected thereon a dwelling being known and numbered as 305 Donna Drive, Elizabeth, PA 15037, Deed Book Volume 13222, page 245, Instrument Number 2007-12740, Block and Lot Number 1129-J-72.

County of Allegheny vs. William T. Borowski, With Notice to Heirs & Assigns.

GD-20-002387 \$17,375.22

Joseph W. Gramc, Esquire, 437 Grant Street, 14th Floor, Pittsburgh, PA 15219, (412) 281-0587.

In the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, County of Allegheny: **Township of Elizabeth,** being thereon vacant land known as Greenock Buena Vista Road, Buena Vista, PA 15018, Deed Book Volume 5924, page 933, Block and Lot Number 1128-D-296.

County of Allegheny vs. James Patterson, with Notice to Heirs & Assigns; Robert Patterson, with Notice to Heirs & Assigns; William Patterson, with Notice to Heirs & Assigns; Esther May Peairs, with Notice to Heirs & Assigns; Martha Power O'Neil, with Notice to Heirs & Assigns; Emma B. Fergus, with Notice to Heirs & Assigns; Margaret F. Smiley, with Notice to Heirs & Assigns; Annie M. Powers, with Notice to Heirs & Assigns; Hugh Nixon O'Neil, with Notice to Heirs & Assigns; Maurine B. O'Neil, with Notice to Heirs & Assigns; Emma Peairs, with Notice to Heirs & Assigns; Mary Peairs, with Notice to Heirs & Assigns; John Peairs, with Notice to Heirs & Assigns; Stewart Peairs, with Notice to Heirs & Assigns; William Peairs, with Notice to Heirs & Assigns; Thoms H. Peairs, with Notice to Heirs & Assigns; Margaret Peairs, with Notice to Heirs & Assigns; Unknown Heirs of William R. Patterson & Unknown Heirs of William M. Drennan.

McKeesport

029.- Scott Harding, as Believed Heir or Administrator of the Estate of Robert Harding, Sr., a/k/a Robert R. Harding, a/k/a Robert R. Harding Sr.; Unknown Heirs and/or Administrators of the Estate of Robert Harding Sr., a/k/a Robert R. Harding, Sr. GD-20-002815 \$34,633.09

Manley Deas Kochalski, LLC, P.O. Box 165028, Columbus, OH 43216-5028, (614) 220-5611.

In the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, County of Allegheny: **City of McKeesport,** having erected thereon a dwelling being known and numbered as 2614 Kansas Street, McKeesport, PA 15132, Document Number 29976, Deed Book Volume 6374, page 95, Block and Lot Number 0464-D-00176-0000-00.

Monroeville

013.- Georgena Kae Turba, a/k/a Georgena K. Turba, as Believed Heir or Administrator of the Estate of Regis T. Sulkowski, Sr., a/k/a Regis T. Sulkowski, a/k/a Regis Sulkowski; Stefanie Ann McGuire, as Believed Heir or Administrator of the Estate of Regis T. Sulkowski, Sr., a/k/a Regis T. Sulkowski,

Elizabeth Township

Esquire, 437 Grant Street, 14th Floor, Pittsburgh, PA 15219, (412) 281-0587.

In the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, County of Allegheny: **Township of Elizabeth,** being thereon vacant land known as Greenock Buena Vista Road, Elizabeth, PA 15037, Deed Book Volume 65, page 372, Block and Lot Number 118-C-299.

Monroeville

a/k/a Regis Sulkowski; a/k/a Regis T. Sulkowski, a/k/a Regis Sulkowski, Jr., as Believed Heir or Administrator of the Estate of Regis T. Sulkowski, Sr., a/k/a Regis T. Sulkowski, a/k/a Regis Sulkowski; Bernadine Lynn Zvolensky, as Believed Heir or Administrator of the Estate of Regis T. Sulkowski, Sr., a/k/a Regis T. Sulkowski, a/k/a Regis Sulkowski; Jennifer Jean Maksim, as Believed Heir or Administrator of the Estate of Regis T. Sulkowski, Sr., a/k/a Regis T. Sulkowski, Sr., a/k/a Regis T. Sulkowski, a/k/a Regis Sulkowski; Unknown Heirs and Administrators of the Estate of Regis T. Sulkowski, Sr., a/k/a Regis T. Sulkowski, a/k/a Regis Sulkowski. GD-20-002067 \$68,377.89

Manley Deas Kochalski, LLC, P.O. Box 165028, Columbus, OH 43216-5028, (614) 220-5611.

In the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, County of Allegheny: **Borough of Monroeville,** having erected thereon a dwelling being known and numbered as 1380 Cavitt Road, Monroeville, PA 15146, Deed Book Volume 4628, page 579, Block and Lot Number 1108-M-00028-0000-00.

034.- Pauline T. Bittner.

MG-19-001026 \$71,875.70

Richard M. Squire & Associates, LLC, 115 West Avenue, Suite 104, Jenkintown, PA 19046, (215) 886-8790.

In the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, County of Allegheny: **Municipality of Monroeville,** having erected thereon a dwelling being known and numbered as 2684 5th Street, Monroeville, PA 15146, Deed Book Volume 4133, page 449, Block and Lot Number 0545-M-00042-0000-00.

North Braddock

005.- Genevieve A. Fulton. MG-19-001107 \$43,202.44

KML Law Group, PC., 701 Market Street, BNY Mellon Independence Center, Suite 5000, Philadelphia, PA 19106, (215) 627-1322.

In the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, County of Allegheny: **Borough of North Braddock,** having erected thereon a dwelling being known and numbered as 800 North Avenue, Braddock, PA 15104, Deed Book Volume 11544, page 434, Block and Lot Number 302-B-178.

North Versailles

017.- Robert Szalkay. GD-20-010946 \$55,414.30

Stephen M. Hladik, Esquire, Hladik, Onorato and Federman, LLP, 298 Wissahickon Avenue, North Wales, PA 19454, (215) 855-9521.

In the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, County of Allegheny: **North Versailles Township,** having erected thereon a single family residential dwelling being known and numbered as 411 Oakhurst Avenue, North Versailles, PA 15137, Deed Book Volume 9549, page 23, Block and Lot Number 459-P-232.

Penn Hills

007.- Unknown Heirs, Successors, Assigns and All Persons, Firms or Associations Claiming Right, Title or Interest from or under Tina L. Young a/k/a Tina Lynn Young, deceased. GD-20-001938 \$54,174.11

Powers Kirn, LLC, Eight Neshaminy Interplex, Trevose, PA 19053, (215) 942-2090.

In the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, County of Allegheny: **Municipality of Penn Hills,** having erected thereon a dwelling being known and numbered as 205 Marose

Penn Hills

Drive, Pittsburgh, PA 15235, Deed Book Volume 16956, page 595, Block and Lot Number 451-A-301.

011.- Penn Hills School District and Municipality of Penn Hills vs. Ann Pirollo. GD-19-004283 \$25,332.62

Jennifer L. Cerce, Esquire, 424 S. 27th Street, Suite 210, Pittsburgh, PA 15203, (412) 242-4400.

In the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, County of Allegheny: **Municipality of Penn Hills,** having erected thereon a dwelling with retail space being known and numbered as 435 Rodi Road, Pittsburgh, PA 15235, Deed Book Volume 6626, page 1, Block and Lot Number 450-R-239.

035.- Harry L. Allen.

GD-19-001195 \$22,296.20

Shapiro & DeNardo, LLC, 3600 Horizon Drive, Suite 150, King of Prussia, PA 19406, (610) 278-6800.

In the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, County of Allegheny: **Municipality of Penn Hills,** having erected thereon a dwelling being known and numbered as 341 Whittier Drive, Pittsburgh, PA 15235, Deed Book Volume 17428, page 172, Block and Lot 0450-M-00091-0000-00.

040.- County of Allegheny vs. TOC Management LLC. GD-17-011080 \$6,403.05

Joseph W. Gramc, Esquire, 437 Grant Street, 14th Floor, Pittsburgh, PA 15219, (412) 281-0587.

In the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, County of Allegheny: **Municipality of Penn Hills,** having erected thereon a two story frame commercial building being known and numbered as 270 Coal Hollow Road, Verona, PA 15147, Deed Book Volume 15247, page 387, Block and Lot Number 367-N-336.

Pitcairn

030.- Allen R. Hoy, as Believed Heir and/or Administrator of the Estate of Betty I. Hoy; John M. Hoy, as Believed Heir and/or Administrator of the Estate of Betty I. Hoy; Unknown Heirs and/or Administrators of the Estate of Betty I. Hoy. MG-19-000874 \$53,769.07

Manley Deas Kochalski, LLC, P.O. Box 165028, Columbus, OH 43216-5028, (614) 220-5611.

In the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, County of Allegheny: **Borough of Pitcairn,** having erected thereon a dwelling being known and numbered as 411 3rd Street, Pitcairn, PA 15140, Document Number 080491, Deed Book Volume 10778, page 342, Block and Lot Number 0747-A-00042-0000-00.

Pittsburgh-2nd Ward

015.- Kimberly D. Rutland. GD-19-018298 \$103,821.81

Stephen M. Hladik, Esquire, Hladik, Onorato and Federman, LLP, 298 Wissahickon Avenue, North Wales, PA 19454, (215) 855-9521.

In the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, County of Allegheny: **2nd Ward of the City of Pittsburgh,** having erected thereon a two story single family residential dwelling being known and numbered as 525 Mitchell Avenue, Clairton, PA 15025, Deed Book Volume 12336, page 366, Block and Lot Number 879-M-155.

Pittsburgh-13th Ward

003.- Roberta Davis. GD-20-007912 \$23,626.23

KML Law Group, PC., 701 Market

Pittsburgh-13th Ward

Street, BNY Mellon Independence Center, Suite 5000, Philadelphia, PA 19106, (215) 627-1322.

In the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, County of Allegheny: **13th Ward of the City of Pittsburgh,** having erected thereon a dwelling being known and numbered as 7031 Idlewild Street, Pittsburgh, PA 15208, Deed Book Volume 15091, page 533, Block and Lot Number 174-E-163.

Plum

009.- Robert L. Williams. MG-16-001320 \$335,152.48

Michael C. Mazack, 501 Smith Drive, Suite 3, Cranberry, PA 16066, (724) 776-8000.

In the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, County of Allegheny: **Borough of Plum,** having erected thereon a dwelling being known and numbered as 140 Cherrywood Drive, New Kensington, PA 15068, Deed Book Volume 11577, page 490, Block and Lot Number 735-D-28.

Port Vue

010.- South Allegheny School District vs. Danielle Thompson known Heir and All Unknown Heirs of Alfred Mosqueda, deceased. GD-19-014070 \$13,063.29

Jennifer L. Cerce, Esquire, 424 S. 27th Street, Suite 210, Pittsburgh, PA 15203, (412) 242-4400.

In the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, County of Allegheny: **Borough of Port Vue,** having erected thereon a one-half (1/2) of a two story double brick building being known and numbered as 328 San Juan Drive, McKeesport, PA 15133, Deed Book Volume 4769, page 213, Block and Lot Number 383-L-90.

016.- Bryce Hanratty, Declan Hanratty and Carly

having erected thereon a dwelling being known and numbered as 3120 Southern Drive, South Park, PA 15129, Deed Book Volume 10411, page 642, Block and Lot Number 1008-J-266.

Port Vue

L. Hanratty, Known Heirs of Brandon R. Hanratty, deceased, and the Unknown Heirs of Brandon R. Hanratty, deceased. MG-19-000699 \$30,699.75

Leon P. Haller, Esquire, Purcell, Krug and Haller, 1719 North Front Street, Harrisburg, PA 17102, (717) 234-4178.

In the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, County of Allegheny: **Borough of Port Vue,** having erected thereon a dwelling being known and numbered as 1400 Pike Street, McKeesport, PA 15133, Deed Book Volume 11874, page 569, Block and Lot Number 383-P-296, Being Lot Number 142, Westwood Hills Plan of Lots, Allegheny P.B.V. 43, pages 187-189.

Port Vue

006.- Lori Labarbera, as Administratrix of the Estate of Denis J. Kowalski, deceased. GD-19-011635 \$36,129.03

KML Law Group, PC., 701 Market Street, BNY Mellon Independence Center, Suite 5000, Philadelphia, PA 19106, (215) 627-1322.

In the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, County of Allegheny: **Township of South Park,** having erected thereon a one and one-half (1.5) story brick and frame dwelling being known and numbered as 436 Elwyn Avenue, Springdale, PA 15144, Deed Book Volume 13046, page 143, Block and Lot Number 627-L-267.

Turtle Creek

042.- Giovanni Guilli a/k/a Giovanni Gulli. GD-20-008068 \$23,982.26

Shanyder Law Firm, LLC, 148 East

Port Vue

Street, BNY Mellon Independence Center, Suite 5000, Philadelphia, PA 19106, (215) 627-1322.

In the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, County of Allegheny: **13th Ward of the City of Pittsburgh,** having erected thereon a dwelling being known and numbered as 7031 Idlewild Street, Pittsburgh, PA 15208, Deed Book Volume 15091, page 533, Block and Lot Number 174-E-163.

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Turtle Creek

042.- Giovanni Guilli a/k/a Giovanni Gulli. GD-20-008068 \$2

Today

HIGH: 34
LOW: 30



Not as cold with intervals of clouds and sunshine. Winds S at 4-8 mph.

Tomorrow

39
30



Shows of rain and snow in the afternoon. Winds SW at 8-16 mph.

Tuesday

41
31



Mostly cloudy and breezy. Winds WSW at 10-20 mph.

Wednesday

52
29



Not as cool with times of sun and clouds. Winds SW at 7-14 mph.

Thursday

36
24



A rain and snow shower possible. Winds NW at 7-14 mph.

Weather outlook

Intervals of clouds and sunshine today. Cloudy tonight with a rain or snow shower in spots late. Chance of precipitation 55%. Dull and dreary with a little rain tomorrow morning followed by a couple of showers of rain or snow in the afternoon. Chance of precipitation 60%. Tuesday: mostly cloudy and breezy. Wednesday: times of sun and clouds.

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Nation Cities

City	Today		Tomorrow	
	HI/Lo	W	HI/Lo	W
Albany	30/14	s	34/27	sn
Albuquerque	46/26	s	51/29	s
Allentown	34/22	s	38/29	sn
Anchorage	19/11	pc	18/3	s
Atlanta	58/47	s	58/36	sh
Atlantic City	36/31	s	43/34	r
Baltimore	39/28	pc	42/33	r
Birmingham	61/48	s	58/35	r
Boise	39/30	c	46/30	pc
Boston	32/21	c	40/32	sn
Buffalo	30/24	pc	39/31	sn
Charleston, S.C.	54/41	s	66/43	pc
Charleston, W.Va.	45/36	s	44/32	r
Charlotte	49/36	s	51/32	r
Chicago	36/28	sn	38/35	c
Cincinnati	42/37	c	40/32	c
Cleveland	35/32	c	38/31	sn
Columbus	37/35	c	39/30	sn
Dallas	58/29	c	60/37	s
Dayton	38/36	c	38/31	c
Denver	39/22	s	52/28	s
Des Moines	34/24	sn	40/33	pc
Detroit	32/30	c	37/32	sn
Erie	33/30	c	39/32	sn
Fairbanks	-12/-34	s	-9/-29	pc
Grand Rapids	33/30	c	35/31	c
Greensboro	45/31	s	45/31	r
Harford	34/17	s	38/27	sn
Harrisburg	37/27	pc	39/34	c
Honolulu	81/71	pc	81/71	pc
Houston	69/44	c	64/36	s
Indianapolis	39/32	c	37/32	c
Jackson, Miss.	59/45	c	54/31	pc
Kansas City	40/27	i	52/33	pc
Las Vegas	62/44	s	68/47	s
Los Angeles	73/51	s	78/53	s
Louisville	47/39	pc	41/34	c
Memphis	53/35	c	49/35	s
Miami	75/71	pc	80/70	sh
Milwaukee	35/27	sn	38/34	c
Minneapolis	33/25	sn	41/30	c
Myrtle Beach	46/39	s	61/43	r
Nashville	54/42	s	48/34	pc
New Orleans	68/55	c	66/43	pc
New York City	35/28	s	41/32	sn
Norfolk	38/30	s	56/36	r
Oklahoma City	44/23	pc	55/29	s
Omaha	34/23	sn	44/32	pc
Orlando	70/57	pc	81/60	c
Philadelphia	36/27	pc	40/31	r
Phoenix	70/46	s	76/48	s
Portland, Maine	33/16	s	36/26	sn
Portland, Ore.	51/48	r	54/39	r
Providence	33/20	s	41/32	r
Richmond	42/28	s	47/32	r
Sacramento	65/40	s	69/45	s
St. Louis	40/31	r	48/35	pc
Salt Lake City	39/31	s	46/33	pc
San Diego	74/50	s	75/51	s
San Francisco	62/48	s	66/49	s
San Juan	82/73	sh	83/72	sh
Seattle	52/49	r	53/40	r
Spokane	38/37	pc	45/29	c
Syracuse	31/20	pc	37/30	sn
Tampa	74/61	s	77/61	c
Toledo	34/32	c	37/31	sn
Tucson	68/40	s	77/43	s
Washington, D.C.	39/30	c	43/34	r
Wheeling	36/32	c	39/30	r
Wilmington, Del.	37/25	s	40/30	r

Yesterday's Record

Readings from the Pittsburgh Int'l. Airport through 5 p.m. Feb 20, 2021

TEMPERATURE

High	23
Normal high	41
Year ago	28
Record high	78 (2018)
Low	13
Normal low	24
Year ago	16
Record low	-10 (2015)

DEPARTURE FROM NORMAL

Yesterday	-14.1
Month to date	-6.6
Year to date	-1.4

HUMIDITY

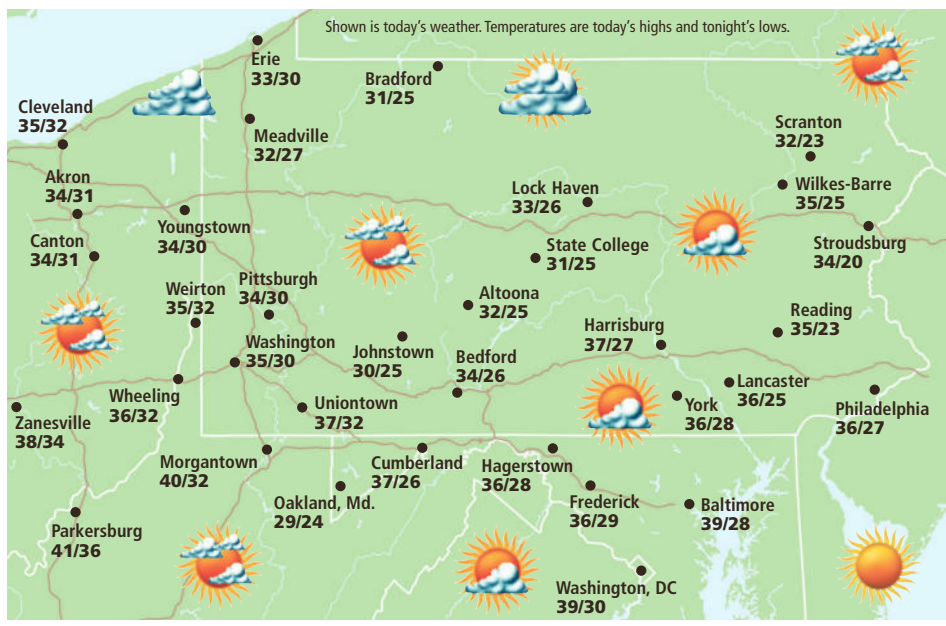
High	80 (at 1 a.m.)
Low	59 (at 3 p.m.)

PRECIPITATION (inches)

24 hours ending 5 p.m. yest.	trace
Month to date	1.79
Normal month to date	1.70
Departure from normal	+0.09
Year to date	4.06
Normal year to date	4.40
Departure from normal	-0.34

BAROMETER

Yesterday's high	30.32
Yesterday's low	30.21



River Stages

ALLEGHENY	
Franklin, Pa.	3.60 F
Parker, Pa.	2.80 F
Sharpsburg, Pa.	10.80 R
MONONGAHELA	
Gray's Landing, Pa.	12.50 F
CHEAT	
Parsons, W.Va.	4.60 F
WEST FORK	
Clarksburg, W.Va.	4.11 F
YOUGHIOGHENY	
Sutersville, Pa.	4.30 F
BEAVER	
Beaver Falls, Pa.	5.00 S
OHIO	
Pittsburgh, Pa.	16.30 R
Dashields Dam	15.20 F
Montgomery Dam, Pa.	12.90 F
Pike Is. Lock and Dam, W.Va.	14.40 F

F-Falling; M-Missing; P-Pool; R-Rising; S-Stationary

Moon Phases



World Cities

City	Today		Tomorrow	
	HI/Lo	W	HI/Lo	W
Athens	57/41	sh	61/43	s
Auckland	79/62	pc	76/66	pc
Baghdad	64/39	s	62/39	s
Beijing	70/31	pc	51/25	s
Berlin	59/36	s	56/37	s
Bermuda	59/54	c	59/57	c
Bogota	64/50	sh	65/48	sh
Buenos Aires	85/73	s	85/69	pc
Cairo	65/49	c	66/50	pc
Copenhagen	44/36	c	43/38	pc
Dublin	52/38	c	52/42	pc
Frankfurt	59/36	s	56/38	pc
Hong Kong	76/64	s	77/65	s
Jerusalem	51/42	s	55/43	s
Johannesburg	86/65	pc	70/61	t
Kinshasa	87/73	pc	87/73	t
London	58/47	c	56/45	pc
Madrid	55/41	pc	53/34	c
Manila	85/75	c	85/77	c
Mexico City	76/52	s	74/45	s
Montreal	26/13	s	33/31	sn
Moscow	18/0	sn	6/-16	sn
Nairobi	80/61	t	75/61	t
Nassau	75/70	pc	80/73	pc
New Delhi	82/58	pc	84/59	pc
Oslo	40/34	sh	40/35	c
Paris	62/48	pc	59/51	pc
Rio de Janeiro	81/74	pc	81/74	t
Rome	61/43	s	63/44	s
Seoul	59/37	s	55/25	s
Singapore	88/76	pc	87/75	pc
Sydney	80/69	sh	80/67	pc
Tokyo	65/49	s	68/51	s
Toronto	29/23	pc	38/31	sn
Vancouver	50/45	sh	49/37	pc
Vienna	51/41	c	53/35	pc
Warsaw	42/31	s	46/31	s

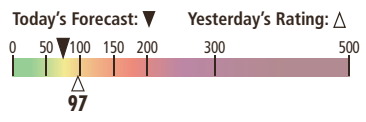
Weather (W): s-sunny, pc-partly cloudy, c-cloudy, sh-showers, t-thunderstorms, r-rain, sf-snow flurries, sn-snow, i-ice.

Skywatch today

Sunrise	7:06 a.m.
Sunset	6:03 p.m.
Moonrise	12:21 p.m.
Moonset	2:57 a.m.

Air Quality

Primary pollutant: Particulates
0-50: Good, 51-100: Moderate, 101-150: Unhealthy for sensitive groups, 151-200: Unhealthy, 201-300: Very Unhealthy, 301-500: Hazardous
Source: Pa. Dept. of Environmental Protection



Shown are today's noon positions of weather systems and precipitation. Temperature bands are highs for the day.



U.S. EXTREMES
(For the 48 contiguous states yesterday)
High 82 at El Centro, Calif.
Low -27 at Burlington, Wis.



TOP WORK PLACES 2021

Pittsburgh Post-Gazette

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Peter Diana/Post-Gazette

SIMPLY GRAND Sidney Crosby gives girl friend Kathy Leutner a kiss Saturday during pregame ceremonies at PPG Paints Arena saluting his 1,000th game with the Penguins. **More, Page B-5.**

PENGUINS 3, ISLANDERS 2

Crosby's night ends in win

Letang scores first two goals of season and the captain gets two assists

With flowers in hand and his girlfriend by his side, Penguins captain Sidney Crosby glanced up at the Jumbotron as a video tribute played before his 1,000th career game.

"Three Cups. Conn Smythes. Hart Trophies. You did it all," his long-time teammate Kris Letang said late in the video. "And it was a pleasure for me to be next to you for all those great

moments."

Saturday night, Letang helped make sure the milestone was a special one for the captain.

The Penguins All-Star defenseman tallied his first two goals of the season — one on the power play and then eventually the game-winner late in the third period — to power the Penguins to a 3-2 victory over the New York Islanders at PPG

Paints Arena.

Letang's breakthrough night, coupled with two assists from Crosby, a goal from fellow defenseman Mike Matheson and several stand-on-his-head moments from Tristan Jarry, helped the Penguins improve their record to 9-6-1.

Moments after the video

SEE **GAME**, PAGE B-5



On the Penguins
MIKE DEFABO



BRADENTON 2021
PIRATES SPRING TRAINING

THE CHALLENGES AHEAD

Predictions have them losing 100 games (or more). Yet there will be successes and triumphs along the way. The question: What will they look like?

► **Derek Shelton enters his second season as manager.**
Matt Freed/
Post-Gazette

S miles and optimism permeated Pirate City just 12 months ago.

Manager Derek Shelton was hired to transform the team culture and create an upbeat vibe, something he did by having players be more intentional with their work while encouraging them to have a little fun. Meanwhile, a busy offseason produced a glimmer of hope, the belief that somehow the Pirates could recalibrate quickly enough to make a playoff push.

What a difference one year has made.

When the Pirates hold their first full-squad workout later this week, it will be under vastly different circumstances.

No fans and plenty of masks, for one. But also with more of a concrete sense of who they are — a young, rebuilding club looking to grow this thing from the ground up, a process requiring equal parts patience and hope.

SEE **SPRING**, PAGE B-2



On the Pirates
JASON MACKEY

Age is just a number, but which number is it?

For all the advancements in the study of aging, geriatrics, gerontology, and whatever additional academic labels define the current scholarship, the sports world still leans hard toward guesswork in identifying the point at which athletes can no longer perform to their own standards.

This is likely because the bulk of the scientific



Gene Collier

research magnetizes to the health problems of aging rather than the salary cap problems of people managing a roster of 20- and 30-somethings, logically enough.

SEE **COLLIER**, B-10

A better Sunday

Sunday Sports at the Post-Gazette just got better. Starting today, we will have four pages of added content from our award-winning sports staff as well as from around the nation and the world. More Steelers. More Penguins. More Pirates. More everything.

Check out our new "From the Point" page, which will take a weekly deep dive into the Penguins and the NHL. It's just one of the exclusive features we will be adding in the coming weeks.

We at the Post-Gazette Sports department thank you for your readership and your commitment to great journalism. We can't do it without you.

— Jerry Micco
Assistant Managing Editor/Sports



Florida State engulfs slipping Panthers

Steady Seminoles a notch above Pitt



On the Panthers
CRAIG MEYER

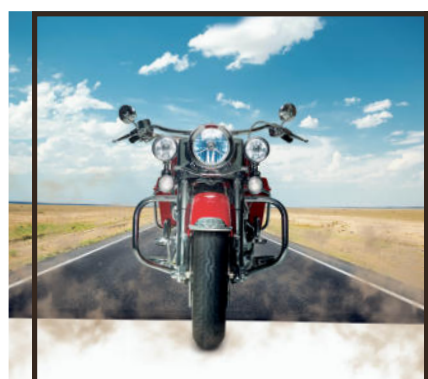
Whether it was last year after an 82-67 loss or in the moments Saturday after a 79-72 setback, Pitt coach Jeff Capel's assessment of Florida State is consistent.

It's a team, he'll say, that comes at you in waves.

That's certainly one way of putting it. For years, the

Seminoles have been one of the most talented, athletic teams in one of college basketball's most talented, athletic conferences, offering the kind of sheer size and physicality that can make

SEE **PITT**, PAGE B-8



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Baseball



THE ROSTER: PART I

NAMES FOR CAMP

Jason Mackey breaks down the Pirates' spring training roster as the team prepares for its first full-squad workout this week (*-non-roster invitee):

■ Pitchers

No.	Player	Skinny
31	Tyler Anderson	Left-handed starter has talent. Pitched to a 9.64 ERA in four of his 11 starts last year, a 2.04 ERA in the other seven. Which version will the Pirates get?
38	Tyler Bashlor	Four-seamer and slider have spin and movement, but control has been an issue. Prototypical Pirates pitching project.
51	David Bednar	Local boy and Mars product makes more than a fun story. Four-seamer and curveball are 60-grade pitches per FanGraphs.
78	Cody Bolton*	Could be next pitching prospect up. Must stay healthy and refine changeup. Should start in Class AAA.
43	Steven Brault	Gave up one or no earned runs in seven of 10 starts last year. Chance to be a big part of 2021 rotation.
34	JT Brubaker	Rookie in '20 but must grow up fast as rotation mainstay. Slider (.204 BA, 37.2 Whiff%) and curveball (.182, 38.1) are excellent.
49	Blake Cederlind	Terrific sinker averaged 98.2 mph in 2020. Highly entraining and perfect closer attributes. Needs experience.
59	Roansy Contreras	Part of Jameson Taillon return. Has a plus changeup but work to do developing curveball.
30	Kyle Crick	Must rediscover fastball velocity and stay healthy. Slider remains elite. Off-field tragedy affected Crick in 2020.
29	Wil Crowe	Acquired in Josh Bell trade. Will compete with Cody Ponce for fifth starter job, unless Pirates sign someone.
35	Austin Davis	Fared well in Pittsburgh (.091 BA against) but likely behind Sam Howard and Chasen Shreve among lefty relievers.
83	Y. De Los Santos*	Late-bloomer struck out 73 and walked 12 in 50 innings (1.44 ERA) at Low-A in 2019. Watch him.
76	Chase De Jong*	Another project pitcher, De Jong added four-seam velocity in '20. Has more work to do, but an intriguing depth option.
45	Michael Feliz	Looked great last spring but made just three appearances because of elbow issues. If healthy, could get back-end innings.
56	Carson Fulmer	Did not pitch for Pirates in 2020, but they did claim him twice off waivers. Was a first-round choice in 2015.
77	Jandel Gustave*	Another sleeper. Pitched well for Giants in 2019 — 2.96 ERA, 96.1 mph average four-seamer velocity, .167 BA against his slider.
32	Geoff Hartlieb	Top option with men on base. Allowed two of 18 inherited runners to score in 2020, fourth-best (11.1%) among NL relievers.
52	Clay Holmes*	Looked worlds better before getting hurt last spring. Must use curveball (43.1 Whiff% in 2019) more and control sinker.
54	Sam Howard	Threw sliders 62.3% of the time in 2020 and had 3.86 ERA in 22 appearances. Expect him to keep MLB job in '21.
23	Mitch Keller	Back-to-back hitless games in final two starts of 2020 showed how good he can be. Time for him to pitch like that consistently.
67	Max Kranick	Another young arm to track. Shortened arm action during quarantine, added to 40-man in November and should start at Class AA.
39	Chad Kuhl	Year 2 post-Tommy John will be big for Kuhl, who saw three good friends depart this offseason. Using spin more, showed flashes of dominance in 2020.
60	James Marvel*	Elbow injury (and subsequent surgery) limited Pirates' 2019 minor league pitcher of the year's ability to show progress he made with mechanics in 2020.
36	Nick Mears	Chucked a 102.6 mph fastball this offseason. Like Cederlind, needs touches. Could become another future bullpen piece. Strong mustache.
71	Braeden Ogle*	Injuries have been a bear, but Ogle's development has picked up steam as of late. Plus, a lefty throwing 97 always warrants a look.
57	Luis Oviedo	Rule 5 pick must stay on 26-man roster, or Pirates could lose him. Flirts with 98 mph and has solid curve but must improve control and consistency.
44	Cody Ponce	Odd why the Pirates didn't take a longer look at Ponce in 2020. Had a 3.18 ERA in three starts. Along with Crowe, he's a fringe rotation option.
62	Sean Poppen	Another sinker/slider guy claimed off waivers, this time from the Twins, as they've turned over several rocks looking for bullpen depth.
84	Quinn Priester	Best pitching prospect in the organization. Likely only a matter of time until he becomes the best pitching prospect in baseball.
48	Richard Rodríguez	Their best bullpen option, by far. Also one of their top remaining trade candidates. Had a career-best 13.11 strikeouts per nine in 2020.
37	Edgar Santana	Solid in 2018 (3.31 ERA, 74 strikeouts in 66½ innings) but had Tommy John surgery and missed 2020 after testing positive for Boldenone. Is the ability still there?
55	Chasen Shreve*	Was solid for Mets in 2020, especially in longer outings. Has a 3.74 career ERA while also pitching for Braves, Yankees and Cardinals. Should win a job.
72	Jose Soriano	Top pick in Rule 5 draft had Tommy John surgery last February. Should be ready by May or so. Terrific velocity with a power breaking ball.
66	Shea Spitzbarth*	Rule 5 pick (minor league phase) plucked from the Dodgers has shown the ability to get swing and miss and recently added a splitter into his repertoire.
46	Chris Stratton	Like Rodríguez, a lock. Led NL relievers with 30 innings pitched in 2020 and had 3.90 ERA with 39 strikeouts against just 13 walks.
79	Blake Weiman*	Reached Class AAA in 2019 and has been excellent in minors: 2.88 ERA in 84 games (31½ innings) with 146 strikeouts and 21 walks. Should get a long look.
50	Miguel Yajure	Another part of the Taillon trade, made his MLB debut with Yankees in 2020 (1.29 ERA, 7 IP). Led all minor league pitchers (min. 125 IP) with 2.14 ERA in 2019.

Dateline: Bradenton, Fla.

Buy stock in these players

By Mike Persak
Pittsburgh Post-Gazette

The reality of finishing the 2020 season with the worst record in Major League Baseball is that not many Pirates had good seasons.

A glass-half-full view would mean plenty of Pirates are due for a bounce-back season.

Even if it doesn't help them become a successful, playoff-contending club in 2021, it could help build toward the future. Either players can play themselves into a possible role in that future or build up trade value, perhaps being dealt later to augment organizational depth.

For readers who don't want to think that hard about which players fit into some nebulous, future

roster, well, bounce-back seasons in 2021 would likely at least make the season more fun.

Here are the three most prominent candidates with reasons to believe a turnaround is possible:

OF Bryan Reynolds

Reynolds might be the player the Pirates most need to improve. For all the young prospects rising through the minor league ranks, many of the best are pitchers or infielders. In Baseball America's ranking of the top 10 Pirates prospects, just one of them is an outfielder.

Plus, Reynolds only just turned 26 years old, meaning he's certainly in the mix as someone who can hang around in Pittsburgh for years to come. The problem

is he slashed .189/.275/.357 last season after a .314/.377/.503 line in 2019. His strikeout percentage rose, while his average exit velocity and hard-hit percentage dropped.

The outfielder knows it wasn't good. As with some other Pirates, he mentioned at the end of last season that it was hard to mentally dig himself out of an early hole. After 21 games, he was hitting .174. And rather than have over 100 games to correct that, the COVID-shortened year was more than a third of the way finished.

The thing is, Reynolds has never hit below .300 in college or the minors, excluding an 18-game, .188 stint in the Arizona Fall League. One would think that would mean a correction is coming. If Reynolds

can cut down the strikeouts and generate a bit more bat speed, his natural talent should be able to make him a productive hitter again.

INF Kevin Newman

The 27-year-old shortstop and second baseman is in a similar situation to Reynolds, albeit with a bit less dire stats. He went .224/.281/.276 following a 2019 season in which he finished .308/.353/.446. That .276 slugging percentage was the 49th-lowest in MLB last season. To contextualize it, he had just six extra-base hits in 172 plate appearances.

The positive for Newman is that he just doesn't strike out. He did so merely 11.7% of the time in 2019, and that

SEE **BOUNCE**, PAGE B-3

Matt Freed/Post-Gazette photos

Expect Ke'Bryan Hayes, above and below, to continue to emerge from the shadows and become the player fans want to watch.

Challenges for 2021 have grown for Pirates, Shelton

SPRING, FROM B-1

It's a direction the franchise likely should have taken years ago, and it was crystallized by offseason moves that included designating Trevor Williams for assignment, declining Chris Archer's option and trading away Josh Bell, Jameson Taillon and Joe Musgrove.

There's still an excitement to what the Pirates are doing right now, Mitch Keller insisted, but it's markedly different than what the team experienced last season.

"Everyone was really excited last year," Keller said. "Just coming in, new regime, I think it was their time to see what we had and where we needed to go, what pieces they wanted and all that."

"Coming into this year, I think they knew that they wanted to ... they're not saying it, but rebuild and build for the future. I think we do have a lot of good pieces in the big leagues right now. Myself, Ke'Bryan [Hayes] and some of our pitchers like [Steven] Brault and [Chad] Kuhl are really good. I think we have a lot of potential to be a really good pitching staff. We have a lot of young guys, and the prospects that we got for Joe and 'Jamo' are going to help us in a few years. I think we're all just really excited about where we're taking this."

It's certainly an odd time to be a Pirates player, coach or fan, with 2023 or 2024 circled as more fruitful seasons. But there are also reasons to pay attention now. Hayes should continue as a break-out star, the Pirates pitching staff could surprise some people, and the National League Central Division isn't expected to be very good.

Steven's also reality.



Pittsburgh's payroll will remain among the lowest in MLB, while pretty much nobody expects these poor Pirates to lose fewer than 100 games, the result of myriad offensive questions and a minor league system lacking major league-ready talent at its upper levels.

But isn't this baseball? The sport and logic have never really been pals. The Pirates were nearly a .500 club and could smell first place in the division at the 2019 All-Star break, yet the bottom fell out. Why can't the flip side of that occur in 2021?

"Our goal is still to go out there and try to win as many games as we can," Jacob Stallings said. "I'm happy for those guys [who were traded], but we still need to go about our work the right way and prepare for the season."

With that in mind, let's look at some of the hurdles the Pirates will face in 2021, in addition to a couple of areas where they might be better than expected.

Challenges ahead

On the surface, it may be easy to attach an asterisk to the champions of a 60-game season. In reality, however, that was hardly the case. To keep players healthy and the season chugging along, many believed the Dodgers' path to the 2020 World Series was extremely difficult.

It won't get any easier in 2021. In fact, even as COVID-19 vaccines are being distributed with varying degrees of success, MLB knows that it's hardly out of the woods.

The protocols MLB has adopted for 2021 are similar to the previous season, though the league will be more stringent with players wearing tracking bracelets and fines and/or suspensions doled out for anyone who does not follow the rules.

It's also trying to limit disruptions or outbreaks over 162 games instead of 60, a process that magnifies risk in a hurry when you take 30 games and remember the

Looking ahead

Game: Pirates vs. Baltimore Orioles in exhibition opener, Ed Smith Stadium, Sarasota, Fla.
When: 1:05 p.m. Feb. 28.

amount of travel and movement required to pull off a major league season.

"It might have been a little easier to adhere to the protocols during a shorter season," Stallings said. "The longer season will definitely be more challenging."

Spring training will be the real truth serum, Stallings said.

While MLB capped camp rosters at 75, there also will be scores of new faces in camps across Florida and Arizona, with those players generally on the younger side of the age spectrum and more likely to cut corners if not properly policed by veterans.

"A lot of these guys didn't go through this stuff last year," Stallings said. "We're going to have to help them do this stuff and help them get through it."

On the field, it's no secret that the Pirates have concerns. Their 2020 OPS of .641 was last in MLB, while they also hit .220 as a team, which was 28th. They led the National League in errors (47) and lost 22 of 28 games away from PNC Park.

In terms of individual performances, they'll need bounce-back years from several players. Bryan Reynolds and Kevin Newman combined for just 0.2 Wins Above Replacement, per Baseball Reference, which represented a drop of 7 bWAR from the previous season.

Gone are their past two opening-day starters

SEE **SPRING**, PAGE B-3

Baseball

Dateline: Bradenton, Fla.

Expect bounce-back years

BOUNCE, FROM B-2

rose just a smidge to 12.2% in 2020, which put him in the 96th percentile in MLB.

And though Newman ranked in the 5th percentile in average exit velocity last season, that isn't necessarily the issue. In fact, his average exit velocity and hard hit rate increased from 2019.

He just made a lot more frequent weak contact — 8% of his batted balls were considered weak by MLB Statcast, up from 3.2% the year prior.

The good news is even with that, Newman's expected batting average — measured by comparing his batted balls to the results from past batted balls with similar exit velocities and launch angles — was .254. That would have been

better.

Newman isn't going to be a power hitter anytime soon, but he does have the profile of a lead-off guy. He doesn't strike out, he's pretty speedy and he puts the bat on the ball. Improvement moving forward may just mean making the most of contact.

RHP Kyle Crick

It isn't really fair to call last year a bad one for Crick, since he pitched in just seven games total before missing the rest of the season with side strains. He said as much Thursday when speaking with media.

The big concern was that his fastball velocity dipped from the mid-90s all the way down to an average of 90.9.

In a recent interview with the Post-Gazette, Crick chalked some of that up to an

inability to train as effectively after the 2019 season due to a right finger injury.

But even in 2019, Crick struggled far more than his previous two seasons, allowing 10 homers and a 4.96 ERA in his 49 innings of work.

The larger point here, though, is that Crick was very good the season prior, with a 2.39 ERA in 2018.

Crick says now that he's working on tunneling his pitches, throwing them out of the same arm slot to effectively dupe opposing hitters. His slider is still his best weapon, and if he can return some speed to his fastball, those two pitches coming out of the same spot, paired with a sinker mixed in here and there, will make for a really strong arsenal.

Plus, if Crick comes back like he was in 2018, you can

start to see a pretty strong bullpen building for the Pirates. Richard Rodriguez was very good last year. Rookie right-hander Blake Cederlind throws gas and figures to improve with experience. Geoff Hartlieb, Chris Stratton and Sam Howard were all positives in their own right. Right-hander Edgar Santana is returning to the team for the first time since allowing just 24 earned runs in 66⅓ innings in 2018.

A problem would be that not many of those players have pitched in late-inning, high-leverage roles consistently. Crick has. A return to form would make that experience even more valuable.

Mike Persak:
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and Twitter
@MikeDPersak.

Many positives still in play for Pirates

SPRING, FROM B-2

(Musgrove, Taillon), in addition to a middle-of-the-order bat in Bell. Gregory Polanco hit just .153 and struck out 37.4% of the time, while their only two regulars aside from Hayes with an OPS over .700 were Colin Moran (.797) and Stallings (.702).

"I think the 60-game season brought some pressure that nobody was used to," Stallings said. "If you get off to a bad start, you're trying to climb out of it the whole way. It's really challenging.

"A lot of the guys who struggled were young. They're too good of hitters to not [bounce back]. I really don't have any concerns about those guys."

This Pirates team will also feature plenty of new story lines to monitor. One involves the three-man battle for the starting shortstop gig between Newman, Cole Tucker and Erik Gonzalez. Another will be Moran as the primary first baseman and how he handles that.

A third centers around ... well, center field, and whether Anthony Alford or Brian Goodwin (signed to a minor league deal with an invite to big-league camp) can earn a regular role.

All around the diamond, and for the first time in several years, there should be plenty of competition for spots, another sizable departure from what the Pirates thought about their roster entering the 2020 season.

"The competition last year was more me learning our players and learning our group," Shelton said. "This year, having a good idea of the people we brought in or the people who were here, there are some open spots in terms of what we're building and how we're building it."

Thinking positive

While the Pirates have plenty of position players eyeing bounce-back seasons in 2021, their most popular one will look to build on his incredible MLB debut, a fairy-tale first month that quickly thrust him into the face-of-the-franchise discussion.

Hayes, 24, hit .376 with 5 home runs and 11 RBIs in 24 games. By far the Pirates' most interesting player, one who also flashed a flair for the dramatic, Hayes ranked fourth among all MLB hitters (minimum 75 plate appearances) with a 1.124 OPS. Meanwhile, his .442 on-base percentage was sixth.

The second-generation talent nicknamed "Young Hayes" finished the season riding an eight-game hitting streak (while hitting .516), hit .314 with two strikes (best in the NL) and collected hits in 20 of 24 games. In 68 defensive



Matt Freed/Post-Gazette

Were 11 no-hit innings over his last two starts in 2020 a sign of things to come for Mitch Keller?

A long summer forecast

A selection of early predictions for Pirates losses in 2021:

97

FanGraphs

105*

USA Today

101

Baseball Prospectus

*The Pirates have only twice lost as many as 105 games since 1900. The club record for losses is 112 in 1952.

chances at third, Hayes played Gold Glove-caliber defense and made just one throwing error.

Soft-spoken and humble, Hayes has kept a low profile this offseason, committing himself to hitting, fielding and lifting while showing he's more interested in production than talking about himself or taking some sort of victory lap.

But whether he wants to admit it or not, Hayes has become a focal point of the Pirates, the guy fans will pay money to see and someone pretty much everyone expects to represent them at the MLB All-Star Game in Atlanta.

"This kid is extremely grounded," Shelton said. "The only place we have to temper expectations is externally. Everybody is going to say he came in and played 24 games and did this or that.

"We expect Ke'Bryan to go out every night, have consistent at-bats, play good defense and go from there. We don't expect him to be a world beater or anything in that regard. We just expect him to be himself. And I fully expect him to do that."

As exciting as Hayes might be in Year 2, if the Pirates are truly going to surprise anyone — simply avoiding 100 losses might qualify — they need their pitching staff to take a couple of steps forward, especially the starters.

That group pitched to an MLB-low 1.94 ERA with 78 strikeouts over the final 13 games of 2020. It's obviously unreasonable to expect that over 162 games, but that group, if it produces, could provide a sliver of stability.

The success of the rotation should start with Keller, an ace-in-waiting who closed the

year with 11 innings of no-hit ball spread over two starts. Keller tweaked his delivery this offseason to establish more rhythm, and his fastball has ticked up 1-2 mph.

Braut (2.53 ERA as a starter) and Kuhl are the veterans of the group and have shown flashes of dominance. But injuries have prevented them from pitching well over an extended stretch. Despite having just nine MLB starts under his belt, JT Brubaker will have to grow up fast. Lefty Tyler Anderson was their only major league signing this offseason.

The bullpen will be anchored by dependable veterans Richard Rodriguez and Chris Stratton, with spring training used to solidify other roles. Kyle Crick and Michael Feliz have held high-leverage roles before. There are also some young, live arms. Expect a heavy rotation of guys between the majors and Class AAA Indianapolis.

More than anything, though, the Pirates would be helped by a continuation of the improvement they saw over the final month of the 2020 season, when their pitchers sliced more than a run over their collective ERA, and the starters shined.

Indians' Bieber reports after virus bout

The Associated Press

Cy Young winner Shane Bieber reported to training camp Saturday with the Cleveland Indians after the right-hander was quarantined with COVID-19.

Bieber, 25, who was baseball's best pitcher in 2020, was medically cleared and joined Cleveland's other pitchers and catchers in Goodyear, Ariz. He recently tested positive with the virus, but only experienced

Notebook

mild symptoms.

Bieber spent part of the winter working out at the team's training complex, and manager Terry Francona said his ace will resume a normal work schedule.

Yankees

Brett Gardner's return to the team won't displace Clint Frazier from taking over as New York's starting

left fielder. Gardner agreed Friday to a \$4 million, one-year contract to return to the Yankees for a 14th season. Manager Aaron Boone cautioned developments during a season could alter intentions but for now Frazier was projected over Gardner in an outfield that has Aaron Hicks in center and Aaron Judge in right.

"I expect Clint to be our left fielder and to be in that starting lineup," Boone said Saturday in Florida.



THE ROSTER: PART II

NAMES FOR CAMP

Jason Mackey breaks down the Pirates' spring training roster as the team prepares for its first full-squad workout this week (*-non-roster invitee):

■ Catchers

No.	Player	Skinny
68	Jason Delay*	Had eight home runs and 37 RBIs in 67 games with Class AA Altoona in 2019. Has thrown out 32% of base stealers throughout his career.
70	Joe Hudson*	Has seen 18 games with Angels, Cardinals and Mariners while throwing out 43% of base stealers in minors. Strong defensively but hasn't done much with the bat.
74	Christian Kelley*	Hit just .179 in 80 games with Class AAA Indianapolis in 2019. Entered 2020 as the "best defensive catcher" in Pittsburgh's system, per Baseball America.
73	Arden Pabst*	Split time with Delay and hit .192 with Curve. Has thrown out 35% and had a .778 OPS as recently as 2018.
5	Michael Perez	Until Wolters signed a minor-league deal, was thought to be Stallings' backup. Now, there will be competition. Is coming off a year where he hit .167.
58	Jacob Stallings	Zero question about defense. He does enough with the bat, too, although he'd surely like to better his career .699 OPS.
63	Andrew Susac*	Was taxi squad catcher in 2020 and played first MLB game since 2018. Actually has more MLB experience (114 games) than Hudson and Perez combined (102).
93	Tony Wolters*	Former infielder has been solid defensively since his MLB debut in 2016, ranking seventh in fielding runs above average among NL catchers, per FanGraphs.

■ Infielders

No.	Player	Skinny
90	Ji-hwan Bae*	MLB Pipeline has him as a 70-grade runner. Has hit .309 and stolen 41 bases in his first 121 minor league games. Plenty of contact and speed.
64	Rodolfo Castro	Switch-hitting infielder with developing power. Could help himself with a strong spring after hitting 19 homers at High-A in 2019.
31	Will Craig*	Finally, a shot at regular playing time. But he also needs to produce offensively, something that has been challenging for the slick defender.
61	Oneil Cruz	The arm and power are there, but must find consistency. Also, how soon until the Pirates try him in the outfield?
15	Wilmer Difo*	Likely Frazier insurance for now. Power lacks, but Difo does give Pirates solid defensive depth and a veteran presence.
24	Phillip Evans	Hit .359 in 2020 before a concussion and broken jaw ended his season. Should be Pirates' top bench guy and maybe more, depending on how he hits.
26	Adam Frazier	Two-time Gold Glove finalist. Salary over \$4 million. Pirates need to audition middle infielders. You do the math.
	Todd Frazier*	Two-time All-Star has produced five seasons of 20 or more homers and provides an intriguing potential power option as a backup at the corner infield spots.
81	Nick Gonzales*	First-round pick in 2020 will be fun to watch. Mature offensive approach. Terrific defender. First shot against pro competition.
2	Erik Gonzalez	Has been a streaky hitter the past couple of years. Could be a bench guy, but also expendable if the offense lacks.
13	Ke'Bryan Hayes	Likely the focal point of spring training after sensational MLB debut. Good chance he picks up some hardware after the season, too.
65	Kevin Kramer*	Outrighted off the 40-man roster last year. Is 27 and coming off hip surgery, didn't play in 2020 and is a career .152 hitter in the big leagues. Long odds there.
80	Mason Martin*	Start monitoring Martin. Hit 35 home runs and drove in 129 runs across two levels in 2019. Muscular frame and plus power. Should start at Class AA Altoona.
19	Colin Moran	Now the starter at first, has a chance to build on solid 2020, when he led the Pirates in home runs (10), total bases (84) and shared the top spot in RBIs (23).
27	Kevin Newman	Which one is it? Newman was worth 3.1 bWAR in 2019 but -0.4 in 2020. Pirates need the guy who hit .308 with 12 homers, 64 RBIs and 16 steals.
82	Liover Peguero*	Athletic shortstop acquired in the Starling Marte trade is a riot. Likely shortstop of the future. Currently Pirates' fifth-best prospect per MLB Pipeline.
3	Cole Tucker	Like Craig, it's time. Will compete with Newman and Gonzalez for the starting shortstop gig, but must up his .215 career average and .584 OPS.

■ Outfielders

No.	Player	Skinny
6	Anthony Alford	MLB's 25th-best prospect before 2016, Alford has tools that tantalize, but he's also a .169 hitter in 88 big-league plate appearances. Can he hit?
18	Brian Goodwin*	Potentially terrific add. Two years ago, Goodwin hit 17 homers and was worth 2.2 bWAR with the Angels. If he's anywhere close, he makes the club.
91	Cal Mitchell*	An All-Star in each of his two pro seasons. Exciting prospect had 15 HRs and 64 RBIs at High-A in 2019. A year or two away, but could make an impression.
14	Jared Oliva	The jump from Class AA likely wasn't easy. Even if Oliva starts at Class AAA, he's a solid hitter and fielder with exceptional speed. His time is not far off.
25	Gregory Polanco	At least there's room for improvement after hitting .153 with 65 strikeouts in 174 plate appearances. Need to hope he magically rediscovers his form.
10	Bryan Reynolds	It's up in the air whether he'll play left or center, but there's little doubt that .189 average in 2020 was an aberration, a byproduct of a shortened season.
92	C. Smith-Njigba*	One of the most powerful prospects Pirates have, but he's not a prototypical bopper. Hit .307 with an .871 OPS in 2019, preferring to work counts and drive gaps.
69	Troy Stokes Jr.*	Made an impression with Detroit last spring before missing 2020 with a fractured hand. Has shown some power in the minors. Seemingly close to breakout.
75	Travis Swaggerty*	There's no reason to rush Swaggerty, the Pirates' first-round pick in 2018, but he also thinks he's ready. Would be a pretty big jump from High-A.

Manager: Derek Shelton. **Bench:** Don Kelly. **Hitting:** Rick Eckstein. **Assistant hitting:** Christian Marrero. **Pitching:** Oscar Marin. **First base:** Tarrick Brock. **Third base:** Joey Cora.

Hockey



FROM THE POINT

Notes, observations and numbers focusing on the Pittsburgh Penguins.

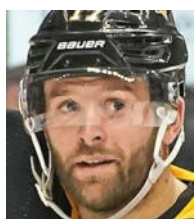
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THREE STARS



#1

Bryan Rust

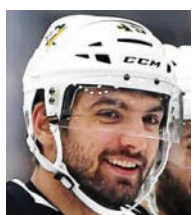
With seven points in four games entering Saturday, Rust is on a tear. Clearly, last season was no fluke. He has backed up his breakout by pacing the team in goals and points.



#2

Tristan Jarry

Still has a long way to go to get back to his All-Star level. But he appears to finally be settling in. While making three straight starts to open the week, he stopped 98 of the 105 shots he faced.



#3

Zach Aston-Reese

Hasn't displayed much rust since returning from shoulder surgery. Had a goal in each of his first three games while teaming with Teddy Blueger and Brandon Tanev to stifle opponents.



Associated Press

Bryan Rust has found that there isn't much routine about gameday in the pandemic, except perhaps the game.

THE ROUTINE

NHL players tend to be creatures of habit on gameday. This pandemic couldn't care less.

Dating to his days at Notre Dame, Bryan Rust has more or less followed the same routine before games, whether they were at home or on the road, a 7 p.m. puck-drop or an early start, a random night in February or a big Game 7.

He would arrive about two hours and 45 minutes before the game and begin getting mentally, physically and literally geared up to take the ice.

"I would get there early, tape some sticks, maybe put some new laces in my skates, do some stretching, chat a little bit with the strength and conditioning guys or the [teammates] who were there, maybe play a little soccer," Rust said. "We'd have a meeting and by then it would already be 5:30 for a 7 o'clock game."

But this season, with the Penguins and the rest of the NHL trying to play through a pandemic, players and coaches aren't allowed in the arena until 5:15 p.m.

Initially, the NHL's COVID protocols did not permit entry until two hours before the game to try to limit the amount of time players and coaches were crowded in close quarters. Two weeks ago, the league lopped off another 15 minutes.

"So when [that window] shortened, it can hinder your preparation quite a bit,"

Rust said. "Now, most of that stuff at the beginning is gone. Basically, you just get to the rink and start to warm up."

What's the big deal? If beer-leaguers can stroll into the rink while the Zamboni is still humming, throw on their gear and go get a hat trick, why can't Rust? Believe it or not, it takes NHLers a bit more work to achieve peak performance.

For Rust, the preparation begins at the morning skate. Those workouts, typically lasting 20 to 30 minutes, help get his blood pumping and keep his skating and puck skills sharp. It also begins the muscle activation process for that night.

After that, Rust eats and heads home or to the team hotel to take his nap. His alarm blares and then he grabs a cup of coffee to sip on his way to the rink. Even a pandemic won't stop some guys from getting their pregame caffeine fix.

When the arena doors open, it isn't quite a Black Monday mad dash to the dressing room. But most players, including Tristan Jarry, are eager to get in there. Asked about his inability to settle into a groove early in the season, Jarry mentioned he was still trying to find a pregame routine that worked.

"With a shorter warmup, you have to prepare a lot quicker," he remarked. For Rust, that has meant doing more

muscle activation exercises in the morning skate window. He guessed some teammates might do those at home, too.

Another way players have made up some of the lost time is by getting their gear squared away and sticks taped just right in the morning. But for some Penguins, such as Sidney Crosby and Jason Zucker, that has been an important part of their pregame ritual, a way to shift their attention toward looming puck battles.

Thankfully, one popular activity is still permitted – sewer ball. Rust is one of a bunch of Penguins who get their muscles warmed up and competitive juices flowing by playing two-touch soccer, also known as sewer ball. They already have to spread out to kick the ball around. So it's perfect for social distancing.

Team meetings? Not so much. Another recent change is that all meetings must be conducted virtually. Rust said the players still have a set meeting time when they go through pre-taped video from Mike Sullivan and the coaching staff. Screens in the locker room also air on loop coaching points for that night's game.

"We're utilizing all the technology that we have at our disposal [and] trying to be as creative as we can to try to keep some semblance of normalcy as far as routines are concerned," Sullivan said. "We recognize how important that is."

Rust said his new, condensed routine "still feels a bit weird." But like many of us in this pandemic, he is staying flexible and keeping everything in perspective.

"I'm just kind of letting things play out here, seeing what things work for me and what things don't," he said. "Hopefully we see more normalcy here soon."

POINT SHOTS



With Brian Dumoulin starting to skate again this past week, a difficult decision looms for Mike Sullivan. All those injuries on the left side created an opportunity for Pierre-Olivier Joseph, pictured above, who does not look out of place. So who sits if no other defenseman gets injured before Dumoulin returns? Given the investment in Mike Matheson, who has done some good things recently, the Penguins won't scratch him. So it will come down to sitting P.O or Marcus Pettersson or using four lefties in the lineup. Looking longer-term, a trade could loosen this logjam.

Now that he has left the lineup, here's a stick tap for Chad Ruhwedel. Steady as always, he filled a big role in the season's first month, at times playing on the left side on the second pair. With two points and a plus-1 rating in 12 games, he didn't deserve to be a healthy scratch. But Ruhwedel is not the type to grumble about it, which is why he's among the most respected guys in that dressing room.

The returns of Jared McCann and Evan Rodrigues can't come any sooner. The current fourth line, centered by Mark Jankowski, is basically unplayable.



I wasn't high on the acquisition of Kasper Kapanen, pictured at left, in exchange for the No. 15 overall pick and some other stuff. Now that I've seen him in black and gold for a handful of games, I'm still not sure he will be a major difference-maker. Don't get me wrong. Kapanen is a useful winger and his combination of speed and size should appeal to the new front-office duo of Ron Hextall and Brian Burke. But I haven't seen much of an impact so far beyond his quick-strike ability in transition.



The results haven't been there, but I remain bullish on the power play, as long as the big guns listen to Todd Reirden, above, and don't just stand around. They do need to get the "bumper" more involved in the slot for tips and quick one-timers.

FINAL BUZZER



With Sidney Crosby playing in his 1,000th career game – which is a huge, huge deal for NHL players – it's a natural time to reflect on his road to that milestone. Two things stand out to me. One, it is remarkable that he at the very least has met the insane expectations heaped on him when he was a teenager. And, two, when Crosby was grappling with his head and neck injuries in 2011 and 2012, it was fair to wonder if he would ever get here. Two Stanley Cups and one Hart Trophy later, he is still going strong. And 1,500 games isn't out of the question.

NUMBERS ADVANTAGE

Statistics that made an impact on the week and the season:

Not a one-sided affair

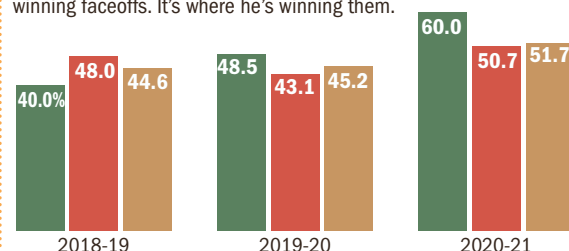
Before getting split up, the line of Jake Guentzel, Sidney Crosby and Bryan Rust was a handful in the offensive zone. But the trio also got it done on the defensive end. As of Tuesday, there were 46 trios across the NHL that had played 50 or more minutes together. The Crosby line was one of the better ones defensively.

Among those lines, their defensive ranks at a per-20 minute rate were:

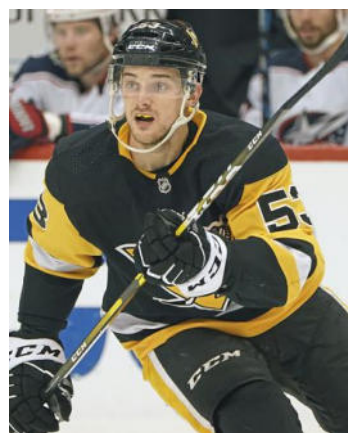
Category	Value	Rank
SLOT SHOTS AGAINST	5.7	15th
RUSH CHANCES AGAINST	1.5	16th
CYCLE CHANCES AGAINST	0.7	1st
REBOUND CHANCES AGAINST	0.4	25th

Circle work is one positive

Improving inside the faceoff circle has been a major point of emphasis for Teddy Blueger over the last three seasons. His progress in that area is one reason why the Penguins as of Thursday had climbed into the NHL's top 10 at 51.8%. But it's not just how often Blueger is winning faceoffs. It's where he's winning them.



James Hillston/Post-Gazette



Peter Diana/Post-Gazette

Teddy Blueger: Man on a mission.

Hockey

Penguins notebook

Crosby's 1,000th game celebrated

Video tribute, teammates make occasion special

By Matt Vensel
Pittsburgh Post-Gazette

Before Sidney Crosby played his 1,000 career game Saturday night, the Penguins feted him with a tribute befitting one of the greatest players in hockey history.

The tribute began in pregame warm-ups, when every Penguins player came down the tunnel wearing a jersey with Crosby's name and number, 87. When Crosby, as he always does, dropped to a knee to re-tie his skates with a few minutes left in warm-ups, all of his teammates did it, too, getting a good laugh out of it.

Just before Saturday's game against the New York Islanders at PPG Paints Arena, the Penguins showed on the Jumbotron a touching five-minute video featuring Crosby's family, a couple of his childhood idols and his two longtime teammates.

It spliced spectacular goals, passes, defensive plays and other highlights over his 15 years in the league along with messages from NHLers past and present.

"I feel very fortunate that I had the opportunity to play with you and watch your career over the last 15 years," Mario Lemieux said. "It's been amazing."

Crosby looked up to Lemieux, the Penguins co-owner and his rookie-year teammate, as a hockey prodigy growing up in Cole Harbour, Nova Scotia.

He also greatly admired Steve Yzerman, a former Detroit Red Wings center. So he surely thought it was a nice surprise to see him pop up in the video.

"You've had a tremendous career to this point. I'm sure there's many, many more great years ahead for you," Yzerman said. "I wish you the best of luck."

Among the current NHL players who congratulated Crosby were Steven Stamkos, Patrick Kane and John Tavares. Plus, Kris Letang and Evgeni Malkin, of course.

"Three Cups. Conn Smythes. Hart Trophies. You did it all," Letang said late in the video. "And it was a pleasure for me to be next to you for all those great moments. But the most important thing is you're going to be my



Sidney Crosby, center, and Jake Guentzel, right, celebrate with Kris Letang after Letang's second goal of the night gave the Penguins a 3-2 lead. Crosby had two assists on the night he played in his 1,000th NHL game.

friend forever."

Crosby stood alongside his longtime girlfriend, Kathy Leutner, while watching the video. Near the end of it, the 33-year-old captain started to get misty-eyed.

After the video, the Penguins gifted Crosby a mosaic featuring a photo from every one of his games to that point, along with a silver stick. His Penguins teammates also chipped in to buy Crosby a shiny commemorative watch.

Sullivan defends Matheson

The Islanders weren't too thrilled with Mike Matheson Thursday after the Penguins defenseman in the third period received a minor penalty for boarding after he shoved All-Star center Mathew Barzal from behind into the wall.

Matt Martin went after Matheson a few minutes later and eventually got tossed by the referees. Asked about Matheson's hit after the game, Islanders forward Brock Nelson said the Islanders would "make it hard on him moving forward."

Prior to Saturday's rematch, Sullivan was asked for his thoughts on the hit.

"I don't think Mike's a

dirty player," he said. "Mathew Barzal is a real dynamic player. He's elusive. I think he was simply trying to defend the best he could and it was unfortunate the way it happened. But I don't think there was intent."

Rust remains adaptable

For the second consecutive game, Bryan Rust started out on a line with Evgeni Malkin and Jason Zucker. That trio provided two goals, one an empty-netter, in Thursday's 4-1 win over the Islanders. So coach Mike Sullivan kept them together.

Rust recently clicked with Crosby and Jake Guentzel and had a ton of success with Malkin in 2019-20. Playing with elite talents isn't as easy as one might think, especially considering how Crosby and Malkin have vastly different styles.

"I try to focus mainly on myself," Rust explained. "Obviously, there's different tendencies different centers like to have. I've been able to take mental note, especially with Sid and Geno, kind of how they play ... and what spots they will be in in certain situations. That's just kind of helped us be more successful."

Playing 'real games'

The team on Friday promoted forwards Jordy Bellefleur and Josh Currie and goalie Emil Larri from Wilkes-Barre/Scranton to the taxi squad. Forwards Frederick Gaudreau and Anthony Angello and goalie Maxime Lagace, who had been on the taxi squad since the season began, went to the American Hockey League.

Asked on Saturday to explain those moves, Sullivan said the primary reason was that the Penguins were "concerned about guys not playing in real games."

"To practice on the taxi

squad for an extended length of time and not participate in any sort of game action, in our mind, doesn't put them in the best possible position to be successful [individually] or help the Penguins," the coach said.

Sure enough, Gaudreau, Angello and Lagace were all in uniform Saturday afternoon for Wilkes-Barre/Scranton. Lagace allowed two goals on 29 shots in a 3-1 loss to the Hershey Bears. Gaudreau and Angello were held without a point.

Matt Vensel: mvensel@post-gazette.com and [Twitter @mattvensel](https://twitter.com/mattvensel).

Penguins report

Saturday's game

N.Y. Islanders 0 1 1-2
Penguins..... 0 1 2-3

First period—None. Penalties—None.
Second period—1. Penguins, Letang 1 (Malkin, Crosby), 12:35 (pp). 2. N.Y. Islanders, Eberle 7 (Beauvillier), 15:28. Penalties—Beauvillier, NYI (Hooking), 12:23.

Third period—3. N.Y. Islanders, Nelson 5 (Mayfield), 0:53. 4. Penguins, Matheson 1 (Lafferty, Blueger), 7:35. 5. Penguins, Letang 2 (Guentzel, Crosby), 13:34. Penalties—Zucker, Penguins (Hooking), 14:08.

Shots on goal—N.Y. Islanders 16-10-9-35. Penguins 4-8-6-18.

Power-play opportunities—N.Y. Islanders 0 of 1; Penguins 1 of 1.

Goalies—N.Y. Islanders, Varlamov 7-4-2 (18 shots-15 saves). Penguins, Jarry 5-5-1 (35-33).

A-0 (18,387). T-2:20. Referees—Brian Pochmara, Furman South. Linesmen—Kyle Flemington, Travis Gawryletz.

Three stars

3 Tristan Jarry, Penguins G
33 saves, .943 save %

2 Kris Letang, Penguins D
2 goals, 5 hits

1 Sidney Crosby, Penguins C
2 assists, 1,000th game

All-timers

Sidney Crosby Saturday night became the first player to appear in 1,000 games in a Penguins uniform. Franchise leaders in games played:

Player	No.
1. Sidney Crosby	1,000
2. Evgeni Malkin	923
3. Mario Lemieux	915
4. Kris Letang	823
5. Jaromir Jagr	806
6. Jean Pronovost	753
7. Rick Kehoe	722
8. Brooks Orpik	703

Schedule

Date	Opponent	Time	TV
2/23	Capitals	7	AT&T
2/25	Capitals	7	AT&T
2/27	Islanders	7	T&T
2/28	Islanders	5	AT&T
3/2	Flyers	7	AT&T
3/4	Flyers	7	AT&T
3/7	Rangers	7:30	NBCSN
3/9	Rangers	6	AT&T
3/11	Sabres	7	AT&T
3/13	Sabres	7	AT&T
3/15	Bruins	7	AT&T

Letang gives Crosby best gift with first two scores in win

GAME, FROM B-1

tribute faded to black, the Islanders nearly put the first number on that scoreboard. Jarry was forced to sprawl out on his stomach, in an inverse snow-angel position to keep the puck out of his net in desperation.

It set the tone for a first period in which the Islanders peppered Jarry with 16 shots. Six of them were of the high-danger variety, according to Natural Stat Trick. The Islanders would go on to outshoot the Penguins 35-18 in the game. Jarry has now put together, arguably, his two best performances of the season back-to-back.

While the Penguins celebrated their captain, there were some tense moments for their other star center. Evgeni Malkin tumbled into the boards with just over five minutes to play in the first period. He flexed his right leg repeatedly as he gingerly made his way around the defensive zone. He went to the dressing room immediately after that shift.

Initially, Malkin did not appear on the bench for the second period. But after missing at least one shift, he returned.

The Penguins found a spark from an unexpected place in the second period. The maligned power play

entered the evening just 1-for-29 over the previous 10 games. Recently, it has better than those stats would suggest.

Finally, Letang gave the unit something to show for it, when he rifled a one-timer from the top of the left circle past Islanders goalie Semyon Varlamov. Fittingly, Malkin and Crosby earned the assists.

The lead was short-lived. Less than three minutes later, as the Penguins entered the offensive zone, a pass from Malkin ricocheted off of Jason Zucker's skate, sending the Islanders off to the races the other way on a 3-on-2. The odd-man rush was exacerbated by a defensive-zone breakdown between Pierre-Olivier Joseph and Matheson. The puck and Matheson ended up in the back of the Penguins' net, as Jordan Eberle celebrated his game-tying goal.

Not even a minute into the third period, the Islanders took their first lead. After the Penguins turned the puck over trying to exit the defensive zone, Brock Nelson shot the puck through traffic and into the back of the net.

With the Penguins pressing, Matheson tied the score at 2 with 12:25 left in regulation. The Penguins want to activate their defense more this year. The

past two games, no defenseman has shown it as much as Matheson. He skated all the way into the slot for the second time in the game, this time to bury his first goal of the season.

That set the stage for Letang.

From below the goal line, Crosby put the perfect pass onto Letang's stick. He ripped the wrist and then waited for the man of the night to come celebrate their moment.

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NHL

SATURDAY'S GAMES

HOME team in caps.



The Penguins' Sidney Crosby (87), playing in his 1,000th NHL game, handles the puck as the Islanders' Ryan Pulock (6) defends. CHARLES LECLAIRE/USA TODAY SPORTS

Rangers 4, CAPITALS 1 : Alexis Lafrenière scored his second NHL goal, Artemi Panarin had two assists and New York made the best of a new-look lineup. With a goal and an assist, Ryan Strome made history as the first player to record 100 points apiece with the Rangers and Islanders.

Sabres 3, DEVILS 2 : Sam Reinhart scored two goals and Buffalo snapped a four-game losing streak. Kyle Palmieri and P.K. Subban scored for the Devils.

Avalanche vs. Golden Knights, late : The outdoor game was delayed after the first period because of poor ice conditions caused by the bright sun at Lake Tahoe. The NHL called for the extended break after the first period.

RED WINGS 2, Panthers 1 : Mathias Brome scored his first NHL goal late in the second period as Detroit held on. Patrik Nemeth also scored his first goal of the season for the Red Wings. Alex Wennberg scored for Florida.

Kings 4, COYOTES 2 : Alex Iafalfo scored two goals, Cal Peterson stopped 22 shots and Los Angeles won its fourth straight. Gabriel Vilardi beat Darcy Kuemper shortly after Arizona's Phil Kessel tied it.

HURRICANES 4, Lightning 0 : Rookie Alex Nedeljkovic made 24 saves in his first NHL shutout. Vincent Trocheck, Sebastian Aho, Cedric Paquette and Andrei Svechnikov scored for the Hurricanes.

PENGUINS 3, Islanders 2 : Sidney Crosby had two assists in his 1,000th NHL game as Pittsburgh won. Kris Letang scored twice, including a tiebreaking goal in the third period. Jordan Eberle and Brock Nelson scored for New York.

Sharks 5, BLUES 4 : Logan Couture scored his second goal of the game midway through the third period as San Jose won. After the Blues overcame deficits of 3-0 and 4-1 to tie it, Couture scored on a wrist shot with 8:09 left in the third.

Predators 4, BLUE JACKETS 2 : Calle Jankrok scored in the first and third periods, Pekka Rinne made 21 saves and Nashville won. The Predators broke a 2-2 tie with two goals in the first 45 seconds of the third period.

Maple Leafs 5, CANADIENS 3 : Auston Matthews scored twice to increase his NHL-leading goals total to 18 and added two assists for Toronto. Jesperi Kotkaniemi, Paul Byron and Tyler Toffoli scored for Montreal.

Wild at DUCKS, late : Jakob Silfverberg has two goals and three assists over the last 10 games for Anaheim. Joel Eriksson Ek leads the Wild with five goals.

Flames at OILERS, late : Jesse Puljujarvi and Gaetan Haas scored, Mike Smith made 20 saves and Edmonton beat Calgary 2-1 Friday night. Defenseman Rasmus Andersson scored for Calgary.

SCOREBOARD

Maple Leafs 5, Canadiens 3
Toronto 0 4 1 - 5
Montreal 0 2 1 - 3

First Period—None.
Second Period—1, Toronto, Matthews 17 (Märner, Rielly), 1:03 (pp). 2, Toronto, Boyd 3 (Thornton, Matthews), 1:20 (pp). 3, Montreal, Kotkaniemi 2 (Tatar, Edmundson), 3:24. 4, Montreal, Byron 1, 3:57. 5, Toronto, Märner 9 (Bogosian, Matthews), 7:31. 6, Toronto, Matthews 18 (Rielly, Märner), 15:05 (pp).

Third Period—7, Toronto, Kerfoot 4 (Spezza, Tavares), 13:36. 8, Montreal, Toffoli 11 (Gallagher, Romanov), 18:34.
Shots on Goal—Toronto 13-8-6-27. Montreal 10-16-7-33.
Power-play opportunities—Toronto 3 of 4; Montreal 0 of 1.

Goalies—Toronto, Andersen 11-3-2 (33 shots-30 saves). Montreal, Price 5-3-2 (27-22).
A-0 (21,288), T_2:29.

Referees—Eric Furlatt, Graham Skilliter. Linesmen, Bevan Mills, Derek Nansen.

Predators 4, Blue Jackets 2
Nashville 2 0 2 - 4
Columbus 0 2 0 - 2

First Period—1, Nashville, Jankrok 3 (Ellis), 12:58 (pp). 2, Nashville, Sissons 3 (Kunin, Trenin), 16:49.

Second Period—3, Columbus, Jenner 6 (Harrington, Foligno), 3:46 (sh). 4, Columbus, Carlsson 1 (Bjorkstrand, Grigorenko), 5:28.

Third Period—5, Nashville, Jankrok 4, 0:16. 6, Nashville, Forsberg 8, 0:45.
Shots on Goal—Nashville 16-19-10-45. Columbus 6-10-7-23.

Power-play opportunities—Nashville 1 of 4; Columbus 0 of 1.

Goalies—Nashville, Rinne 4-5-0 (23 shots-21 saves). Columbus, Merzlikins 3-3-1 (39-35), Columbus, Korpisalo 5-4-3 (6-6).
A-0 (18,500), T_2:31.

Referees—Mitch Dunning, Garrett Rank. Linesmen, Devin Berg, Jesse Marquis.

Sharks 5, Blues 4
San Jose 2 2 1 - 5
St. Louis 0 4 0 - 4

First Period—1, San Jose, Kane 5 (Labanc, T.24). 2, San Jose, Couture 8 (Labanc), 10:10.

Second Period—3, San Jose, Balcers 1 (Hertl), 3:48. 4, St. Louis, Schenn 9 (Kyrou, Hoffman), 4:45. 5, San Jose, Marleau 1 (Kane), 8:18. 6, St. Louis, Sanford 3 (Schenn, Krug), 8:37. 7, St. Louis, O'Reilly 6 (Hoffman, Kyrou), 15:30. 8, St. Louis, Kyrou 7 (O'Reilly, Perron), 18:41.

Third Period—9, San Jose, Balcers 2 (Couture), 11:51.
Shots on Goal—San Jose 10-10-7-27. St. Louis 9-15-8-32.

Power-play opportunities—San Jose 0 of 0; St. Louis 0 of 3.

Goalies—San Jose, Dubnyk 0-3-1 (32 shots-28 saves). St. Louis, Binnington 8-3-2 (27-22).
A-0 (19,150), T_2:32.

Referees—Dean Morton, Tim Peel. Linesmen, Ryan Daisy, Julien Fournier.

Penguins 3, Islanders 2
N.Y. Islanders 0 1 1 - 2
Pittsburgh 0 1 2 - 3

First Period—None.
Second Period—1, Pittsburgh, Letang 1 (Malkin, Crosby), 12:35 (pp). 2, N.Y. Islanders, Eberle 7 (Beauvillier), 15:28.

Third Period—3, N.Y. Islanders, Nelson 5 (Mayfield), 0:53. 4, Pittsburgh, Matheson 1 (Lafferty, Blueger), 7:35. 5, Pittsburgh, Letang 2 (Guentzel, Crosby), 13:34.

Shots on Goal—N.Y. Islanders 16-10-9-35. Pittsburgh 4-8-6-18.
Power-play opportunities—N.Y. Islanders 0 of 1; Pittsburgh 1 of 1.

Referees—T.J. Luxmore, Chris Rooney. Linesmen, Tyson Baker, Ryan Galloway.

Rangers 4, Capitals 1
N.Y. Rangers 1 2 1 - 4
Washington 0 1 0 - 1

First Period—1, N.Y. Rangers, Kreider 5 (Strome, Panarin), 14:57 (pp).

Second Period—2, N.Y. Rangers, Lafreniere 2 (Panarin, Bitetto), 17:44. 3, N.Y. Rangers, Strome 5 (Buchnevich, Lindgren), 18:43. 4, Washington, Orlov 1 (Jensen), 19:21.

Third Period—5, N.Y. Rangers, Zibanejad 2 (Buchnevich), 17:48 (en).
Shots on Goal—N.Y. Rangers 6-13-5-24. Washington 8-11-9-28.

Power-play opportunities—N.Y. Rangers 1 of 5; Washington 0 of 4.
Goalies—N.Y. Rangers, Shesterkin 4-5-1 (28 shots-27 saves). Washington,

Goalies—N.Y. Islanders, Varlamov 7-4-2 (18 shots-15 saves). Pittsburgh, Jarry 5-5-1 (35-33).
A-0 (18,387), T_2:20.

Referees—Brian Pochmara, Furman South. Linesmen, Kyle Flemington, Travis Gawryletz.

Hurricanes 4, Lightning 0
Tampa Bay 0 0 0 - 0
Carolina 0 2 2 - 4

First Period—None.
Second Period—1, Carolina, Trocheck 9 (Niederreiter, Necas), 2:39. 2, Carolina, Aho 6 (Svechnikov), 15:30.

Third Period—3, Carolina, Paquette 2 (Bean, Martinook), 3:12. 4, Carolina, Svechnikov 7 (McGinn, Aho), 17:41 (en).
Shots on Goal—Tampa Bay 6-13-5-24. Carolina 9-9-10-28.

Power-play opportunities—Tampa Bay 0 of 1; Carolina 0 of 2.

Goalies—Tampa Bay, Vasilevskiy 9-3-1 (27 shots-24 saves). Carolina, Nedeljkovic 2-1-1 (24-24).
A-0 (18,680), T_2:20.

Referees—Jake Brenk, Francois St. Laurent. Linesmen, Brandon Gawryletz, Libor Suchanek.

Kings 4, Coyotes 2
Los Angeles 0 1 3 - 4
Arizona 0 1 1 - 2

First Period—None.
Second Period—1, Los Angeles, Iafalfo 4 (Kopitar, Kempe), 4:37 (pp). 2, Arizona, Brassard 2 (Ekman-Larsson, Kessel), 11:48 (pp).

Third Period—3, Los Angeles, Moore 2 (Doughty, Anderson), 0:52 (sh). 4, Arizona, Kessel 6 (Ekman-Larsson, Oesterle), 9:41 (pp). 5, Los Angeles, Vilardi 4 (Carter, Doughty), 12:52. 6, Los Angeles, Iafalfo 5 (Kopitar), 19:47 (en).
Shots on Goal—Los Angeles 6-8-9-23. Arizona 9-9-6-24.

Power-play opportunities—Los Angeles 1 of 3; Arizona 2 of 4.

Goalies—Los Angeles, Petersen 3-4-1 (24 shots-22 saves). Arizona, Kuemper 5-7-2 (22-19).
A-3,187 (17,125), T_2:18.

Referees—Francis Charron, Corey Syvret. Linesmen, Pierre Racicot, Vaughn Rody.

Red Wings 2, Panthers 1
Florida 1 0 0 - 1
Detroit 0 2 0 - 2

First Period—1, Florida, Wennberg 5 (Duclair, Vatrano), 14:43 (pp).

Second Period—2, Detroit, Nemeth 1 (Djoos, Glendening), 10:09. 3, Detroit, Brome 1 (Larkin), 17:27.

Third Period—None.
Shots on Goal—Florida 9-14-16-39. Detroit 5-13-9-27.

Power-play opportunities—Florida 1 of 3; Detroit 0 of 2.

Goalies—Florida, Bobrovsky 5-2-1 (27 shots-25 saves). Detroit, Bernier 4-2-0 (39-38).
A-0 (20,000), T_2:28.

Referees—T.J. Luxmore, Chris Rooney. Linesmen, Tyson Baker, Ryan Galloway.

Rangers 4, Capitals 1
N.Y. Rangers 1 2 1 - 4
Washington 0 1 0 - 1

First Period—1, N.Y. Rangers, Kreider 5 (Strome, Panarin), 14:57 (pp).

Second Period—2, N.Y. Rangers, Lafreniere 2 (Panarin, Bitetto), 17:44. 3, N.Y. Rangers, Strome 5 (Buchnevich, Lindgren), 18:43. 4, Washington, Orlov 1 (Jensen), 19:21.

Third Period—5, N.Y. Rangers, Zibanejad 2 (Buchnevich), 17:48 (en).
Shots on Goal—N.Y. Rangers 6-13-5-24. Washington 8-11-9-28.

Power-play opportunities—N.Y. Rangers 1 of 5; Washington 0 of 4.
Goalies—N.Y. Rangers, Shesterkin 4-5-1 (28 shots-27 saves). Washington,

Reinhardt 7-4-2 (23-20).
A-0 (18,277), T_2:25.

Referees—Jean Hebert, Peter MacDougall. Linesmen, Shandor Alphonso, Travis Toomey.

Sabres 3, Devils 2
Buffalo 1 2 0 - 3
New Jersey 0 0 2 - 2

First Period—1, Buffalo, Miller 2 (Staal, Hall), 5:26.

Second Period—2, Buffalo, Reinhart 4 (Irwin, Montour), 8:07. 3, Buffalo, Reinhart 5 (Dahlin, Eichel), 17:46 (pp).

Third Period—4, New Jersey, Palmieri 3 (Hughes, Butcher), 0:40. 5, New Jersey, Subban 1 (Bratt, Zacha), 16:44 (pp).
Shots on Goal—Buffalo 12-11-6-29. New Jersey 8-6-13-27.

Power-play opportunities—Buffalo 1 of 1; New Jersey 1 of 3.

Goalies—Buffalo, Ullmark 4-3-2 (27 shots-25 saves). New Jersey, Blackwood 4-1-1 (29-26).
A-0 (16,514), T_2:21.

Referees—Brandon Blandina, Jon McIsaac. Linesmen, Tony Sericolo, James Tobias.

LATE FRIDAY

Jets 2, Canucks 0

Winnipeg 1 0 1 - 2
Vancouver 0 0 0 - 0

First Period—1, Winnipeg, Scheifele 9, 7:25.

Second Period—None.
Third Period—2, Winnipeg, Appleton 5 (Pionk), 18:43 (en).
Shots on Goal—Winnipeg 15-8-8-31. Vancouver 9-11-9-29.

Power-play opportunities—Winnipeg 0 of 2; Vancouver 0 of 2.

Goalies—Winnipeg, Brossit 3-1-0 (29 shots-29 saves). Vancouver, Demko 4-7-1 (30-29).
A-0 (18,910), T_2:21.

Referees—Michael Markovic, Brad Meier. Linesmen, Steve Barton, Lonnie Cameron.

Oilers 2, Flames 1

Edmonton 1 1 0 - 2
Calgary 0 1 0 - 1

First Period—1, Edmonton, Puljujarvi 5 (Nurse, Barrie), 5:41.

Second Period—2, Edmonton, Haas 1 (Neal, Chiasson), 17:55. 3, Calgary, Andersson 3 (Gaudreau, Giordano), 18:40.

Third Period—None.
Shots on Goal—Edmonton 8-12-5-25. Calgary 10-6-5-21.

Power-play opportunities—Edmonton 0 of 2; Calgary 0 of 3.

Goalies—Edmonton, Smith 4-0-0 (31 shots-20 saves). Calgary, Ritchie 0-2-0 (25-23).

Hurricanes 5, Blackhawks 3

Chicago 0 2 1 - 3
Carolina 1 1 3 - 5

First Period—1, Carolina, Niederreiter 8 (Slavin), 15:22.

Second Period—2, Carolina, Trocheck 8 (Niederreiter, Bean), 4:03. 3, Chicago, Kane 6 (DeBrincat), 16:39. 4, Chicago, Mitchell 2 (Kane, Kampf), 19:49.

Third Period—5, Carolina, Necas 2 (Gardiner, Teravainen), 2:28 (pp). 6, Carolina, Niederreiter 9 (Necas, Fast), 15:04 (pp). 7, Carolina, Slavin 1, 16:46 (en). 8, Chicago, Soderberg 2 (Kane, Boqvist), 19:09 (pp).

Shots on Goal—Chicago 9-10-10-29. Carolina 7-15-16-38.

Power-play opportunities—Chicago 1 of 4; Carolina 2 of 4.
Goalies—Chicago, Lankinen 7-3-3 (37 shots-33 saves). Carolina, Reimer 8-1-0 (29-26).

NBA

SATURDAY'S GAMES

HOME team in caps.



Lakers center Montrezl Harrell (15) puts up a shot defended by Heat forward Precious Achiuwa (5). ROBERT HANASHIRO/USA TODAY SPORTS

HORNETS 102, Warriors 100 : Terry Rozier hit an off-balance jumper from the left corner as time expired to give Charlotte a win. Rozier — who had 36 points — made the winner after Golden State's Draymond Green received two technical fouls and was ejected with 9.3 seconds for arguing the outcome of a jump ball.

Heat at LAKERS, late : LeBron James leads the Lakers with 7.9 assists and scores 25.9 points per game. Jimmy Butler leads the Heat averaging 7.7 assists while scoring 19.1 points per game.

Kings at BULLS, late : Thaddeus Young is averaging seven rebounds and 12.8

points per game over the last 10 games for Chicago. De'Aaron Fox leads the Kings averaging 22.8 points while adding 3.3 rebounds and 6.9 assists per game.

Suns at GRIZZLIES, late : Jonas Valanciunas leads the Grizzlies with 11.0 rebounds and averages 16.6 points. Devin Booker leads the Suns averaging 24.3 points while adding 3.7 rebounds and 4.3 assists per game.

Wizards at TRAIL BLAZERS, late : Enes Kanter leads the Trail Blazers with 11.1 rebounds and averages 11.5 points. Russell Westbrook leads the Wizards with 9.4 rebounds and averages 18.9 points.

SCOREBOARD

Hornets 102, Warriors 100
GOLDEN STATE (100)
Toscano-Anderson 1-2 0-0 3, Wiggins 8-15 1-2 19, Green 2-7 0-0 5, Mulder 1-5 0-0 2, Oubre Jr. 9-19 3-5-25, Bazemore 1-4 0-0 2, Lee 5-8 1-14, Paschall 5-10 6-16, Wanamaker 5-15 2-3-14. Totals 37-85 13-17 100.

CHARLOTTE (102)
Hayward 5-11 0-0 13, Washington 6-8 0-0 15, Zeller 2-4 1-2 5, Ball 3-10 0-0 7, Rozier 12-19 4-4 36, Biyombo 0-1 0-0 0, Bridges 3-4 2-10, McDaniels 3-7 1-1 9, Monk 3-11 0-0 7. Totals 37-75 8-9 102.

GS 15 32 22 31 - 100
CHA 24 21 24 33 - 102

3-Point Goals—Golden State 13-39 (Oubre Jr. 4-9, Lee 3-6, Wanamaker 2-6, Wiggins 2-6, Toscano-Anderson 1-2, Green 1-4, Bazemore 0-2, Mulder 0-4), Charlotte 20-40 (Rozier 8-11, Hayward 3-4, Washington 3-5, Bridges 2-3, McDaniels 2-4, Ball 1-5, Monk 1-7). Fouled Out, None. Rebounds, Golden State 39 (Green 7), Charlotte 44 (Hayward, McDaniels 7). Assists, Golden State 23 (Wanamaker 5), Charlotte 23 (Ball 7). Total Fouls, Golden State 12, Charlotte 22. A, 0 (19,077)

UTAH (112)
Bogdanovic 8-11 3-4 23, O'Neale 0-4 0-0 6, Gobert 4-7 0-0 8, Conley 5-11 4-4 16, Mitchell 12-27 7-9 35, Favors 2-4 2-2 6, Niang 1-10 0-0 0, Ingles 1-4 2-2 5, Clarkson 9-17 0-0 19. Totals 41-86 18-21 112.

L.A. CLIPPERS (116)
Batum 0-2 0-0 0, Leonard 10-24 9-10 29, Ibaka 4-11 0-0 9, Beverley 5-7 4-4 17, George 6-14 2-2 15, Coffey 0-0 0-0 0, Mann 1-1 0-0 2, Morris Sr. 7-11 0-0 17, Zubac 0-2 3-4 3, Jackson 2-3 0-0 5, Williams 8-14 2-2 19. Totals 43-89 20-22 116.

UTA 23 26 26 37 - 112
LAC 31 26 22 37 - 116

3-Point Goals—Utah 12-34 (Bogdanovic 4-5, Mitchell 4-11, Conley 2-5, Ingles 1-4, Clarkon 1-7), L.A. Clippers 10-30 (Beverley 3-5, Morris Sr. 3-5, George 1-4, Williams 1-4, Ibaka 1-5, Batum 0-2, Leonard 0-4). Fouled Out, None. Rebounds, Utah 38 (Gobert 15), L.A. Clippers 45 (Ibaka 9). Assists, Utah 13 (Mitchell 5), L.A. Clippers 22 (George 5). Total Fouls, Utah 22, L.A. Clippers 20. A, 0 (18,997)

Raptors 86, Timberwolves 81
TORONTO (86)
Powell 10-19 5-5 31, Siakam 4-10 2-3 10, Boucher 3-9 2-2 9, Bemby 3-9 1-2 7, VanVleet 4-20 2-12, Baynes 0-3 2-4 2, Watanabe 0-0 0-0 0, Johnson 0-1 0-0 0, Flynn 1-6 2-24, McCaw 0-0 0-0 0, T.Davis 3-5 2-11, Thomas 0-3 0-0 0. Totals 28-85 18-22 86.

MINNESOTA (81)
Edwards 3-14 1-2 7, Vanderbilt 2-4 0-0 4, Towns 8-13 2-2 19, Beasley 5-16 0-0 13, Rubio 2-6 2-3 7, Layman 3-4 0-0 8, McDaniels 2-5 2-3 8, Reid 2-8 0-0 4, McLaughlin 5-8 1-11, Nowell 0-2 0-0 0, Okogie 0-3 0-0 0. Totals 32-83 8-11 81.

TOR 28 17 13 28 - 86
MIN 15 20 29 17 - 81

3-Point Goals—Toronto 12-40 (Powell 6-10, T.Davis 3-4, VanVleet 2-9, Boucher 1-3, Baynes 0-2, Siakam 0-2, Bemby 0-3, Flynn 0-3, Thomas 0-3), Minnesota 9-38 (Towns 1-3, Rubio 1-4, McLaughlin 2-5, Okogie 0-2, Reid 0-3, Edwards 0-7). Fouled Out, None. Rebounds, Toronto 51 (Baynes, Siakam 9), Minnesota 43

(Towns 13). Assists, Toronto 16 (Siakam 6), Minnesota 24 (McLaughlin 7). Total Fouls, Toronto 16, Minnesota 23.

Grizzlies 109, Pistons 95
DETROIT (95)
Bey 5-12 0-0 14, Grant 5-20 4-5 16, Plumlee 5-8 0-0 10, Ellington 3-9 3-5 10, Wright 6-7 0-0 16, Dombrowski 2-3 0-0 5, Jackson

Tennis

Australian Open

Osaka perfects closing statement

Improves to 4-0 in major finals with straight-sets win vs. Brady

The Associated Press

MELBOURNE, Australia — The trouble for Naomi Osaka at Grand Slam tournaments comes in Week 1. Get beyond that stage at the hard-court majors, though, and start preparing to etch her name on the trophy.

Osaka won her fourth title in her past eight appearances at a Slam, emerging from what initially was a tight Australian Open final and pulling away by grabbing six consecutive games to beat Jennifer Brady, 6-4, 6-3.

With strong serving that produced six aces, Osaka improved to 4-0 in major finals, the first woman to start her career that way since Monica Seles did it 30 years ago. For Osaka, that is part of a 12-0 record so far in the quarterfinals, semifinals and finals at the majors.

"She played really well when she had to," Brady said. "She hit good shots when she needed them."

Osaka, the 2020 AP Female Athlete of the Year, is also on a 21-match winning streak that dates to last season. That includes a championship at last year's U.S. Open. She also won the U.S. Open in 2018, and the Australian Open in 2019.

"Tonight it wasn't meant to be," Brady said after participating in her first Grand Slam final at age 25. "Hopefully there's many more."

The 23-year-old Osaka was born in Japan to a Japanese mother and Haitian father, and moved to the United States with her family when she was 3.

She was seeded No. 3 at Melbourne Park and is now assured of moving up to No. 2.

Only two active women own more Slam titles than Osaka: Serena Williams, with 23, and her sister, Venus, with seven.

Next task for Osaka is improving on clay and grass: She's never been past the third round at the French Open or Wimbledon.

"She's such an inspiration to us all, and what she's doing for the game is amazing in getting the sport out

there," said Brady, a Harrisburg native who was seeded 22nd. "I hope young girls at home are watching and inspired by what she's doing."

Brady had to go through a hard quarantine for 15 days when she arrived in Australia in January because someone on her flight tested positive for COVID-19 on arrival.

This was a big step up in competition during this tournament for Brady, who had not faced anyone ranked in the top 25 nor anyone who previously appeared in so much as one Grand Slam semifinal.

Brady's only previous final four appearance at a major came at the U.S. Open in September, when she lost to Osaka in three sets.

She wasn't able to push the champ as much this time.

"I told everyone that would listen that you're going to be a problem — and I was right," Osaka told Brady with a chuckle, after asking her whether she prefers to be called Jenny or Jennifer. "To see your growth over the past few months is really cool for me to see."

During the pre-match coin toss, the silver women's trophy stood on a clear, plastic pedestal not far from Osaka on her side of the net. After beating Serena Williams in the semifinals, Osaka had made her intentions clear: "I have this mentality that people don't remember the runners-up. You might, but the winner's name is the one that's engraved."

And she keeps making sure that name is hers. It was cooler than it has been in Melbourne recently, with the temperature below 70 degrees and a breeze that made serve tosses difficult for both players, who would catch the ball instead of hit it and say, "Sorry!"

The stadium was allowed to be at half capacity — about 7,500 people — after spectators were barred entirely earlier in the tournament for five days during a COVID-19 lockdown.

"Thank you for coming and watching. It feels really incredible for me," said Osaka, whose 2020 U.S. Open title came in empty stadiums. "I didn't play my last Grand Slam with fans, so just to have this energy, it really means a lot."

In the men's final (3:30 a.m. Sunday), No. 1 Novak Djokovic was seeking his ninth Australian Open championship and 18th Grand Slam trophy overall. He faced No. 4 Daniil Medvedev, who carried a 20-match winning streak into his second major final.

The women's match was locked at 4-4, when Brady used an on-the-run lob winner that she punctuated by waving her arms to request more noise from the crowd. That earned a break point — convert that, and she would serve for the opening set.

But Osaka erased the chance with a cross-court forehand winner, and two errors by Brady made it 5-4.

Osaka then broke to grab the set, helped by



Associated Press

Naomi Osaka is now 4-0 in major finals — the first woman to start 4-0 since Monica Seles 30 years ago.

and watching. It feels really incredible for me," said Osaka, whose 2020 U.S. Open title came in empty stadiums. "I didn't play my last Grand Slam with fans, so just to have this energy, it really means a lot."

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Osaka then broke to grab the set, helped by

Brady's double-fault and a netted forehand on a short ball to end it.

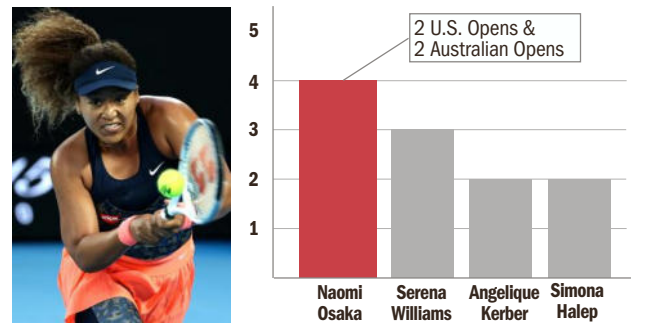
"Happens maybe one in 10 times," Brady said of that mistake, "or hopefully less."

That was part of the six-game run that put Osaka ahead 4-0 in the second and she was on her way.

"She plays so aggressive that she puts so much pressure on you to perform well," Brady said, "and that's something that not every tennis player has that ability to do."

The new power

Most women's Grand Slam singles titles won since the beginning of 2016 — the year Naomi Osaka won her first WTA event:



Harrisburg native Brady leaves Melbourne with sense she belongs

The Associated Press

Jennifer Brady's Australian adventure began with 15 days of hard quarantine — stuck in her hotel room because she might have been exposed to COVID-19 while traveling to the country — and ended with her playing for the championship at Melbourne Park.

Brady, a 25-year-old Harrisburg native, won't be leaving with the Australian Open title after losing to Naomi Osaka, 6-4, 6-3, in the women's final. Brady does depart with a strong sense that she deserves a spot in her sport's upper echelon.

"I mean, I made my first Grand Slam final. So maybe if I wasn't in quarantine, I would have won. Maybe," she said with a smile. "Yeah, I don't think it really hampered me much. Who knows?"

Brady, who played college tennis at UCLA, was one of 72 players who needed to go into hard lockdown for at least two weeks after they were on a chartered flight with someone who tested positive for the coronavirus upon arrival in Australia.

Brady was the only singles player in that group who made it to Week 2 of the year's first Grand Slam tournament and thought perhaps the break from routine did her some good, allowing her to rest physically and mentally.

In the biggest match of her career, a 21-match winning streak that dates to last season. That includes a championship at last year's U.S. Open. She also won the U.S. Open in 2018, and the Australian Open in 2019.



Getty Images

Jennifer Brady made it to the final after entering the tournament as its No. 22 seed.

at 4-4 at the outset before some jittery mistakes led to a six-game run for Osaka that changed the complexion of things.

Still, Brady leaves with a self-belief she never used to have.

"I belong at this level. I think winning a Grand Slam is totally achievable. It's within reach," said Brady, who will rise from No. 24 to No. 13 in the WTA rankings.

"Playing out there, obviously, I was nervous. Didn't go my way. But at the same time, coming off court, I was, like, 'OK, that feels a little bit normal.'"

She has come so far, so fast, and points to two key factors that helped her — beginning to work with coach Michael Geserer in 2019, and playing against — and

practicing with — elite players, which showed her that she could trade swings with the best the sport has to offer.

Consider her resume: When the Australian Open began two weeks ago, Brady's career record in the tournament was 3-3, including first-round exits last year and in 2018, plus a loss in qualifying in 2019.

Her Grand Slam record was 15-14, and her overall tour-level mark as a pro was below .500, at 54-57.

She owned one career title, which came in Lexington, Ky., in August 2020, right after tennis resumed following a five-month hiatus caused by the pandemic.

"I told everyone that would listen that you're going to be a problem — and I was right," Osaka told Brady during Saturday's trophy ceremony with a chuckle, after asking her whether she prefers to be called Jenny or Jennifer. "To see your growth over the past few months is really cool for me to see."

Brady's Grand Slam breakthrough came when she made it all the way to the semifinals of the U.S. Open in September.

Ran into Osaka there, too, pushing her to three sets before losing.

"I don't think, you know, she's God," Brady said about Osaka, a four-time major champion at age 23. "I think maybe Serena [Williams] is. Maybe she'll get there."

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College Basketball

Looking ahead: NCAA tournament

A bracket built on strength, not geography

The Associated Press

There's no need to worry about geography in this year's NCAA tournament.

Get ready for plenty of talk about the so-called "S curve" instead. And don't worry — it's not that complicated.

With the entire tournament taking place in or near Indianapolis, there is no reason for the four geographic regions that have been a part of past NCAA brackets. The NCAA doesn't have to ensure the best teams play closer to home.

The NCAA instead is trying to use the "S curve" in which a team's placement is more dependent on its strength than its location. The No. 1 overall seed ideally would have the No. 8 overall seed as the second-best team in its region, the top No. 2 seed in the same section with the No. 7 overall seed and the same approach for 3 vs. 6 and 4

vs. 5.

Whether that happens isn't a sure thing: Rules prevent conference rivals from facing off early in the tournament and the S curve — the NCAA helpfully put out a specific explanation of this term — often gets broken up.

"The likelihood of being able to be a perfect S curve is probably unlikely," said Kentucky athletic director Mitch Barnhart, who chairs the NCAA Division I men's basketball committee. "There's going to have to be modifications."

It is creating plenty of uncertainty for teams competing for bids — as well as the people filling out the bracket.

"This is just an unprecedented tournament, an unprecedented time," Wisconsin coach Greg Gard said. "Hopefully it's only a one-off and we're only going to have to do this and navigate this one time this way."

Circle the dates

Dates of interest for the NCAA tournament to be played in Indianapolis, Ind.:

14 March Selection Sunday	18 March First Four	19 March First round begins	3 April Final Four	5 April NCAA final
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Conference matchups

Teams from the same conference can't meet before the regional final if they've already played each other at least three times in a season. If they've faced off twice, league foes can't meet until the regional semifinals.

Some of this is already being played out. For instance, when the committee revealed last week which schools would earn the top 16 seeds if the bracket were being announced that day, No. 4 overall seed Ohio State was included in a region with No. 14 seed Texas Tech, rather than

No. 13 seed Iowa.

No. 8 overall seed Houston was in a region with No. 3 overall seed Michigan rather than No. 1 overall seed Gonzaga. Plenty of other pairings also didn't quite match what a true S curve would have reflected.

Outside the league

Division I teams played fewer than half as many non-conference games as usual this year. That makes it tougher than ever to compare the credentials of teams from various leagues.

It also could make it particularly challenging for teams

from outside the major conferences to land at-large bids. Typically, contenders from those leagues build their resumes by beating schools from bigger leagues. Those schools didn't get nearly enough of those opportunities this year.

Barnhart said the biggest challenge is the fact that pandemic-related pauses have caused some teams to play fewer games than others through no fault of their own. There's also the dilemma of how to rate a team that might lose a game or two due to the rust factor after a long layoff.

How low is too low?

Up to now, no team has earned an at-large bid with a worse record than the 16-14 mark that Villanova had in 1991 and Georgia had in 2001.

That could change this season, because the pandemic limited the number of so-called guarantee games that

allow major conference teams to boost their records.

Jerry Palm, who forecasts the NCAA brackets for CBS Sports, said a team could make it this year while being only a few games above .500. Joe Lunardi, who predicts the bracket for ESPN, believes even a team with a losing record could get an at-large bid.

Measuring road wins

One dilemma facing the committee is how to determine the value of a road win during a pandemic, when teams are playing in front of no fans or much smaller crowds than usual.

"It diminishes the effect of the home-court advantage, so to speak," Barnhart said. "But I never want to lose sight of the fact the team has to test to get on the bus or play, they've got to travel, they've got to stay in a hotel, they're out of their element."

Depth of Seminoles sinks Pitt

Around the ACC

Team	Conference			Overall		
	W	L	Pct.	W	L	Pct.
Florida State	9	2	.818	13	3	.813
Virginia	11	3	.786	15	5	.750
Virginia Tech	8	3	.727	14	4	.778
North Carolina	8	5	.615	14	7	.667
Louisville	6	4	.600	11	5	.688
Clemson	7	5	.583	13	5	.722
Duke	8	6	.571	10	8	.556
Syracuse	6	5	.545	12	6	.667
Georgia Tech	7	6	.539	11	8	.579
Notre Dame	6	7	.462	9	10	.474
N.C. State	6	8	.429	10	9	.526
Pitt	5	8	.385	9	9	.500
Wake Forest	3	11	.214	6	11	.353
Miami	3	12	.200	7	13	.350
Boston Coll.	1	9	.100	3	13	.188

Saturday's scores

Florida State 79, Pitt 72
Syracuse 75, Notre Dame 67
N.C. State 80, Wake Forest 62
Georgia Tech 87, Miami 60
North Carolina 99, Louisville 54
Duke 66, Virginia 65

District summaries

Florida State 79, Pitt 72

FLORIDA STATE (12-3)—Gray 6-12 4-5 16, Osborne 3-4 6-7 12, Wilkes 2-4 0-0 6, Evans 1-4 10-12 12, Walker 0-5 0-0 0, Barnes 4-13 3-3 11, Polite 2-4 0-1 5, Koprivica 4-6 0-1 8, Calhoun 2-3 0-0 5, Ngom 2-3 0-0 4. Totals 26-58 23-29 79.

PITT (9-8)—Champagnie 7-17 7-9 21, Coulibaly 3-7 2-2 8, Horton 3-13 0-0 7, Johnson 6-13 2-3 15, Sibbald 4-13 2-4 12, Odukale 3-5 2-2 8, Brown 0-0 1-2 1, Jeffress 0-0 0-0 0. Totals 26-68 16-22 72.

Halftime—Florida State 39-33. **3-Point Goals**—Florida State 4-14 (Wilkes 2-4, Calhoun 1-2, Polite 1-3, Barnes 0-1, Evans 0-1, Osborne 0-1, Walker 0-2), Pitt 4-17 (Sibbald 2-6, Johnson 1-4, Horton 1-5, Champagnie 0-2). **Rebounds**—Florida State 42 (Osborne 9), Pitt 32 (Champagnie 10). **Assists**—Florida State 14 (Polite 4), Pitt 12 (Johnson, Odukale 3). **Total Fouls**—Florida State 17, Pitt 20.

Richmond 79, Duquesne 72

DUQUESNE (7-7)—Baker 4-10 2-2 12, Weathers 4-10 3-5 12, Hughes 9-16 2-3 20, Dunn-Martin 3-10 0-0 8, Okani 1-4 4-4 6, Austin 0-0 0-2 0, Harris 3-5 4-4 10, Acuff 2-3 0-0 4, Bekeja 0-0 0-0 0. Totals 26-58 15-20 72.

RICHMOND (12-5)—Burton 5-9 3-4 16, Cayo 5-8 2-2 13, Golden 3-4 4-4 10, Francis 6-12 4-4 17, Gilyard 5-11 3-4 17, Gustavson 1-2 0-2, Koureissi 1-1 0-2, Grace 0-1 0-0 0, Wilson 1-1 0-2, Bailey 0-0 0-0 0. Totals 27-49 16-18 79.

Halftime—Richmond 40-33. **3-Point Goals**—Duquesne 5-20 (Baker 2-6, Dunn-Martin 2-7, Weathers 1-2, Acuff 0-1, Harris 0-1, Hughes 0-1, Okani 0-2), Richmond 9-23 (Gilyard 4-9, Burton 3-6, Cayo 1-1, Francis 1-5, Grace 0-1, Gustavson 0-1). **Rebounds**—Duquesne 31 (Weathers, Hughes 9), Richmond 28 (Burton, Golden 8). **Assists**—Duquesne 11 (Dunn-Martin 4), Richmond 14 (Golden 8). **Total Fouls**—Duquesne 17, Richmond 19.

Detroit 80, Robert Morris 61

ROBERT MORRIS (4-14)—Bain 7-13 1-2 18, Spear 5-10 0-0 10, Farris 3-4 0-0 8, Treacy 3-8 0-0 7, J. Williams 1-6 0-0 2, Cheeks 1-5 1-4 4, Wilson 0-1 0-0 0, T. Williams 3-4 0-0 7, Suemnick 1-2 3-4 5. Totals 24-53 5-10 61.

DETROIT (11-9)—Waterman 8-11 1-1 22, Brandon 1-2 0-0 2, Davis 8-20 8-8 29, Fraser 3-6 1-2 7, Kuol 7-14 0-0 16, Rose 1-1 0-0 2, Johnson 0-2 0-0 0, Isiani 1-1 0-0 2. Totals 29-57 10-11 80.

Halftime—Robert Morris 39-32. **3-Point Goals**—Robert Morris 8-23 (Bain 3-4, Farris 2-3, T. Williams 1-2, Cheeks 1-3, Treacy 1-5, Spear 0-1, J. Williams 0-5), Detroit 12-28 (Waterman 5-8, Davis 5-14, Kuol 2-5, Johnson 0-1). **Rebounds**—Robert Morris 27 (Bain 7), Detroit 31 (Fraser 9). **Assists**—Robert Morris 13 (Spear, Treacy, J. Williams 3), Detroit 16 (Davis 8). **Total Fouls**—Robert Morris 13, Detroit 11.

PITT, FROM B-1

adversaries feel at times like they're getting engulfed by, yes, a wave.

In a seven-point victory against the Panthers at Petersen Events Center, Florida State showed just how effective and potent that can be.

Though the final score was relatively close, the product of a resilient effort from Pitt that ultimately came up short, the No. 16-ranked Seminoles overpowered and outlasted their opponent. Nine of the 10 Florida State players who saw the court Saturday finished with at least four points, four of whom had at least 11 in a game in which their team scored 79 points on 69 possessions. It reached that impressive mark despite leading scorer M.J. Walker being held scoreless, missing all five of his shot attempts while playing through an injury that took him out of his customary rhythm. His team overcame that with 33 bench points, compared to nine for Pitt, highlighting the sheer amount of depth it possesses.

Against a short-handed Pitt team playing without guard/forward Au'Diese Toney, the Panthers' second-leading scorer and rebounder who missed the game after suffering a concussion Thursday, the Seminoles' inherent advantages were obvious.

Their average starter stood a full 2 inches taller than Pitt's average starter. What came off the bench might have been even more imposing.

There was 6-foot-9 guard Scottie Barnes, a standout freshman and projected NBA draft lottery pick who had 11 points, 6 rebounds



Associated Press

Florida State's Malik Osborne, right, wrestles the ball from Ithiel Horton Saturday at Petersen Events Center.

and 3 assists. There was center Balsa Koprivica, who, at 7-1, stood 3 inches taller than anyone on Pitt's team. He finished the game with eight points on 4-of-6 shooting.

Like Capel said, waves. "They wore us down," Capel said. "That's what they do. That's what Florida State does. They come at you in waves. They have these big, huge, athletic guys they just keep sending in. Their style of play, with the way they pressure the ball constantly, take passes away, they're very, very physical. I thought they wore us down."

Florida State's like few, if any, teams Pitt will play, even in the deep and competitive ACC. It's the kind of reality that was epitomized in select moments.

With about 10 minutes remaining in the first half, Xavier Johnson came off a screen and pulled up for a 3-pointer. From seemingly out of nowhere, Barnes rushed in, swatted his shot away and got a layup on the

other end while being fouled, taking a lead that could have shrunk to four and instead extended it to 10. On the Panthers' second possession in the second half, center Abdoul Karim Coulibaly, off of a crafty feed from a teammate, went up for a layup only to have RaiQuan Gray come in and pin it against the backboard. Then, in the final three minutes and with Florida State up by eight, Barnes got the ball at the edge of the midcourt logo and, with five seconds left on the shot clock, drove by Johnson and the rest of Pitt's team for an emphatic dunk.

That's what the Seminoles do, though. Against them, what seems like an open shot, whether it's from the top of the key or under the basket, isn't and a possession that seems stifled ends with a thunderous jam.

It doesn't make a loss any easier, but it makes it more understandable.

"Everybody in the locker

room knew we could compete in that game," said guard Nike Sibande, who started in Toney's absence and finished with a season-high 12 points. "We knew we were supposed to be there. We knew there was a good chance of us winning. Everybody was upset. But I feel like all we've got to do is stay together and just keep pushing and fighting together. As long as we don't give up, we'll have bright days ahead."

Despite all of the factors working against it, Pitt had its chances.

Battling against such a long, athletic opponent, the Panthers struggled near the rim, making only 15 of 29 shots at the rim. They didn't struggle to get there, but there were too many drives when the ball was a fraction of an inch off, denying them of precious points in a game in which they trailed by four with 45 seconds remaining.

Faced with what seemed like a mismatch on paper,

Pitt turned what looked like a potential blowout early into a competitive game.

The loss was Pitt's seventh in its past eight games, sending it to .500 not even a full month after it was 8-2.

This most recent setback wasn't exactly discouraging. Without arguably its best two-way player, it stayed close for extended stretches with a top-20 team five days removed from obliterating Virginia, the ACC's first-place squad, by 21. If nothing else, it was a sign that things may not be quite as bad as they seem right now, even if that only offers so much solace.

"We did some good things," Capel said. "Obviously, it's not good enough. There are no moral victories for us. We want to win the basketball game and thought we had a chance to."

Craig Meyer:
cmeyer@post-gazette.com
and Twitter @CraigMeyerPG.

District roundup

Richmond holds on to beat Duquesne in final moments

From local and wire dispatches

Jacob Gilyard and Blake Francis scored 17 points apiece as Richmond topped Duquesne, 79-72, at home Saturday.

Tyler Burton added 16 points and eight rebounds for the Spiders (12-5, 5-3 Atlantic 10 Conference).

Richmond scored the final seven points of the game after Michael Hughes tied the score with a layup with just under a minute to play. Gilyard and Francis each hit

two free throws before Gilyard knocked down a 3-pointer at the buzzer.

Hughes scored a season-high 20 points plus 9 rebounds and 3 assists for the Dukes (7-7, 6-6).

More men's games

West Virginia 84, Texas 82: Bob Huggins didn't divulge exactly how he lit into his West Virginia team at halftime when it trailed Texas by 10 points in Austin, Texas.

"You wouldn't want to

print what was said," the Mountaineers coach said.

The message registered. Sean McNeil and the No. 13-ranked Mountaineers (15-6, 8-4 Big 12) erased a 19-point deficit in the second half, then withstood a flurry of last-second misses to hold off the Longhorns (13-6, 7-5).

Detroit Mercy 80, Robert Morris 61: The Colonials (4-14, 3-12 Horizon League) concluded the regular season, falling to host Detroit Mercy (11-9, 10-6). The

Titans used a 27-9 run over the first eight-and-a-half minutes of the second half to turn a seven-point deficit at the break into an 11-point advantage. Senior forward Charles Bain led the Colonials with 18 points.

Women's games

Robert Morris 77, Purdue Fort Wayne 63: The Colonials (4-12, 4-12 Horizon League) got double-digit points from each member of the starting five to bounce back with a win over Purdue Fort Wayne (1

-21, 1-19) in both teams' regular-season finale. Senior forward Holly Forbes led Robert Morris with 16 points. Robert Morris begins its Horizon League tournament trek at 7 p.m. Thursday when it travels to Northern Kentucky.

West Virginia 81, TCU 78: Esmyery Martinez scored 21 points and grabbed 12 rebounds and the No. 19 Mountaineers (17-3, 11-3 Big 12) overcame a 38-point performance by Lauren Heard and held on to defeat TCU (8-11, 3-11).

High Schools

HIGH SCHOOL RESULTS, SCHEDULE

SATURDAY'S RESULTS

Boys Basketball

WPIAL CLASS 6A

Section 1

Butler 74, Pine-Richland 71 (OT)
 Pine-Richland 20 11 19 13 8 - 71
 Butler 14 13 22 14 11 - 74
 High scorers: (PR) Joey Petcash 23, Joey Dudkowski 15, Andrew Alexander 12. (B) Devin Carney 49, Mattix Clement 16.

Section 3

Central Catholic 58, Greensburg Salem 15
 Central Catholic 23 7 21 7 - 58
 Greensburg Salem 5 3 5 2 - 15
 High scorers: (CC) Randy Wilkerson 22, Matt Aulicino 15. (GS) Not reported.

WPIAL CLASS 5A

Section 2

Trinity 55, West Allegheny 42
 Trinity 19 13 12 11 - 55
 West Allegheny 6 11 11 14 - 42
 High scorers: (T) Michael Dunn 21, Connor Roberts 11. (WA) Nodin Tracy 12, Scott Bilovous 11, Joe Pustover 10.

Section 4

Plum 43, Hampton 32
 Hampton 13 7 8 4 - 42
 Plum 9 13 11 10 - 33
 High scorers: (H) Brennan Murray 10. (P) Connor Moss 13.
 Highlands 65, Mars 52
 Mars 8 14 13 17 - 52
 Highlands 19 10 16 20 - 65
 High scorers: (M) Mihali Stefanos 17, Tasso Stefanos 13, Zach Schlegel 11. (H) Jimmy Kunst 20, Carter Ler 11, Chandler Thimons 10.

WPIAL CLASS 4A

Section 2

Beaver 61, Hopewell 26
 Hopewell 5 5 10 6 - 26
 Beaver 15 13 14 19 - 61
 High scorers: (H) Couper Stala 6, Dayveon Jackson 6. (B) Sawyer Butler 17, Tyler Ziggas 16, Charlie Higgs 12.

Section 3

Belle Vernon 81, Elizabeth Forward 53
 Belle Vernon 18 32 16 15 - 81
 Elizabeth Forward 0 24 15 14 - 53
 High scorers: (BV) Devin Whitlock 26, Jake Haney 20, Tyler Kovatch 10. (EF) Zach Boyd 19, Matt Daniels 13, Vemon Settles 12.
 Uniontown 54, South Park 50
 South Park 10 19 3 18 - 54
 Uniontown 6 14 15 19 - 50
 High scorers: (SP) Harper Conroy 15, Aiden Rongaus 12. (U) Da'mar Lewis 21, Brian Sykes 13.

WPIAL CLASS 3A

Section 1

Elwood City 58, Beaver Falls 46
 Elwood City 8 14 12 24 - 58
 Beaver Falls 8 8 7 23 - 46
 High scorers: (EC) Steve Antuono 24, Alex Roth 19. (BF) Isaiah Sharp 14, Mike Conley 13.

Section 3

Ligonier Valley 78, Apollo-Ridge 76 (OT)
 Apollo-Ridge 16 19 8 13 22 - 78
 Ligonier Valley 17 16 14 9 20 - 76
 High scorers: (AR) Jake Fello 25, Kay Fitzroy 25, Keighton Reese 21. (LV) Matthew Marinchak 32, Isaac Neidbalsen 21, Jaicob Hollick 13.

Section 4

Washington 52, Beth-Center 33
 Washington 17 20 17 8 - 62
 Beth-Center 0 10 19 4 - 33
 High scorers: (W) Tayshawn Levy 27, Ian Bredniak 11. (BC) Rueben Miller 13.
 Charleroi 78, Brownsville 38
 Brownsville 8 8 12 10 - 38
 Charleroi 26 24 13 15 - 78
 High scorers: (B) Damarion Brown 14, Trent Wible 11. (C) Will Wagner 25, Zach Usher 12, Jake Caruso 12.

WPIAL CLASS 2A

Section 4

Carmichaels 77, Bentworth 29
 Bentworth 9 11 5 9 - 34
 Carmichaels 20 28 20 9 - 77
 High scorers: (B) Landon Urcho 18. (C) Chris Barish 26, Drake Long 21.

WPIAL CLASS 1A

Section 2

Bishop Canevin 88, Propel Montour 25
 Bishop Canevin 39 21 12 16 - 88
 Propel Montour 6 12 5 2 - 25
 High scorers: (BC) Dom Elliott 14, Kai Spears 12, Mark Ingold 10, Keyvaughn Price 10. (PM) Cortae Siderby 13.

NON-SECTION

Riverside 66, Mohawk 61

Mohawk 13 16 15 17 - 61
 Riverside 18 17 10 21 - 66
 High scorers: (M) Jay Wrona 25, Jackson Miller 24. (R) Sean Falk 19, Madden Boehm 15, Sam Hughes 14.
 Southmoreland 56, Indiana 33
 Southmoreland 8 18 12 18 - 56
 Indiana 9 8 10 6 - 33
 High scorers: (S) Ty Keffer 26. (I) Noah Hurler 12.
 Winchester Thurston 83, Cornell 55
 Cornell 12 19 14 11 - 56
 Winchester Thurston 27 16 29 11 - 83
 High scorers: (C) Drew Lopez 15, Hunter Smith 13, Scott 10. (WT) Jackson Juzang 40, Lance Nicholls 16.
 Armstrong 68, Freeport 33
 Freeport 5 9 10 9 - 33
 Armstrong 25 15 14 14 - 68

High scorers: (F) Cole Charlton 11. (A) Cadin Olsen 33, Adam Hudock 10.
 Penn-Trafford 73, Chartiers Valley 66
 Chartiers Valley 13 15 14 24 - 66
 Penn-Trafford 20 17 13 23 - 73
 High scorers: (CV) Brayden Reynolds 34, Carter Mastovich 14. (PT) Ben Myers 24, Josh Kapcin 20, Noah Wright 12.
 Thomas Jefferson 73, Serra Catholic 27
 Serra Catholic 4 10 5 8 - 27
 Thomas Jefferson 23 20 11 19 - 73
 High scorers: (SC) Joe Demoss 6, Ryan Brooks 6. (TJ) Shawn McSwiggen 11, Evan Berger 10.
 Quaker Valley 63, Mt. Lebanon 54
 Mt. Lebanon 13 20 5 16 - 54
 Quaker Valley 15 10 17 21 - 63
 High scorers: (ML) Jake Reinke 17, Evan Senter 17. (QV) Markus Frank 23, Adou Thiero 23.
 New Castle 81, Montour 63
 Montour 14 17 18 14 - 63
 New Castle 16 19 25 21 - 81
 High scorers: (M) Luke Persinger 17, Diaun Pinkett 14, Vason Stevenson 10. (NC) Michael Wells 25, Sheldon Cox 16, Isaiah Boice 15, Jonathon Anderson 10.
 Fox Chapel 69, Baldwin 45
 Baldwin 8 14 11 12 - 45
 Fox Chapel 16 18 19 16 - 69
 High scorers: (B) Joey Starzynski 15. (FC) Eli Yofan 32, Russell Fenton 15.
 Penn Hills 80, Westinghouse 45
 Westinghouse 8 10 15 12 - 45
 Penn Hills 19 17 24 20 - 80
 High scorers: (W) Amir Richardson 14, Darius Bruce 11. (PH) Daemar Kelly 19, Wes Kropp 19, Ed Daniels 16, George Mitchell 13.
 Hempfield 45, Franklin Regional 36
 Hempfield 9 18 9 12 - 48
 Franklin Regional 9 7 11 9 - 36
 High scorers: (H) Joe Fiedor 11, Nihium Lewis 10. (FR) Cady Hannah 12.
 O.L. Sacred Heart 67, South Allegheny 51
 South Allegheny 17 12 11 11 - 51
 O.L. Sacred Heart 19 8 18 22 - 67
 High scorers: (SA) Antonio Epps 20, Bryce Epps 14. (OLSH) Jake DiCicchele 33, Dante Spadafora 17.
 Fort Cherry 63, South Side Beaver 59 (OT)
 Fort Cherry 7 12 19 16 9 - 63
 South Side Beaver 8 14 10 22 5 - 59
 High scorers: (FC) Owen Norman 26, Dylan Rogers 14, Maddox Truschell 12. (SSB) Aden Almasy 31, Aidan Roach 10.
 Upper St. Clair 79, Nazareth Prep 23
 Nazareth Prep 8 6 4 4 - 22
 Upper St. Clair 22 18 18 21 - 79
 High scorers: (NP) Anthony Jagers 11. (USC) Luke Gensler 12, Tanner Ogrady 12, Luke Banbury 10.
 Upper St. Clair 66, Franklin Regional 55
 Franklin Regional 17 10 18 18 - 55
 Upper St. Clair 25 16 11 14 - 66
 High scorers: (FR) Luke Kimmich 25, Kady Hannah 18, Caden Smith 12. (USC) Luke Gensler 18, Ethan Dahlem 12, John Sukemek 12.
 South Fayette 56, Albert Gallatin 50
 Albert Gallatin 20 12 8 10 - 50
 South Fayette 15 16 18 7 - 56
 High scorers: (AG) Nate English 12, Dylan Shea 11, Ja'Shir Kean 11, A.J. Blyden 10. (SF) Brandon Jakleia 18, Jake Dunay 16, Logan Yater 11.

WPIAL CLASS 2A

Section 2

California 63, Seton LaSalle 41
 California 14 16 17 16 - 63
 Seton LaSalle 10 6 14 11 - 41
 High scorers: (C) Kiara Cerminara 11, Kyleigh Donnelly 10. (SL) Makayla Boda 26, Kendelle Weston 16.
 Serra Catholic 48, Carmichaels 19
 Serra Catholic 24 10 6 8 - 48
 Carmichaels 4 4 2 9 - 19
 High scorers: (SC) Rylee Campbell 16. (C) Sophia Zalar 9.

Section 3

Fort Cherry 35, Chartiers-Houston 30
 Chartiers-Houston 9 7 12 2 - 30
 Fort Cherry 9 6 4 16 - 35
 High scorers: (CH) Kaydan Buckingham 12. (FC) Annika Rinehart 13.

WPIAL CLASS 1A

Section 2

Mapletown 47, Avella 45
 Mapletown 11 9 14 13 - 47
 Avella 15 10 10 10 - 45
 High scorers: (M) Krista Wilson 20, Taylor Dusenberry 18. (A) Katie Dryer 15.

Section 3

St. Joseph 29, Riverview 24
 Riverview 0 11 10 3 - 24
 St. Joseph 7 10 0 12 - 29
 High scorers: (R) Lola Abraham 12. (SJ) Ally Swierczewski 7, Julie Spinelli 7.

NON-SECTION

Mount Pleasant 57, South Allegheny 52

Mount Pleasant 19 13 12 13 - 57
 South Allegheny 16 8 10 18 - 52
 High scorers: (MP) Tiffany Zelmore 35. (SA) J. Riggs 28, A. Cortazo 11.
 Trinity 59, North Allegheny 56
 North Allegheny 12 11 19 14 - 56
 Trinity 11 22 8 18 - 59
 High scorers: (NA) Paige Morningstar 17, Lizzy Groetsch 13. (T) Alyssa Clutter 23, Courtney Dahlquist 17.
 Winchester Thurston 55, Sto-Rox 25
 Winchester Thurston 12 14 15 14 - 55
 Sto-Rox 8 9 7 1 - 25
 High scorers: (WT) Maya Roberts 20, Nadia Moore 16, Nya Nicholson 12. (SR) Alicia Young 11.
 Bethel Park 54, South Fayette 46
 Bethel Park 12 16 13 13 - 54
 South Fayette 8 11 10 17 - 46
 High scorers: (BP) Olivia Westphal 19, Emma Dziezgowski 13. (SF) Jess Stabile 9, Giuliana Gaetano 9.
 Shenango 65, Ambridge 41
 Ambridge 7 7 14 13 - 41
 Shenango 12 16 12 25 - 65
 High scorers: (A) Ava Timmons 14. (S) Kylee Rubin 26, Janie Natale 13, Kelly Cleaver 10.
 Latrobe 40, Southmoreland 28
 Southmoreland 9 10 2 7 - 28
 Latrobe 6 6 18 10 - 40
 High scorers: (S) Gracie Spadaro 14. (L) Anna Rafferty 11.
 Baldwin 62, Fox Chapel 53
 Baldwin 19 12 7 24 - 62
 Fox Chapel 12 13 5 23 - 53
 High scorers: (B) Kayla Randomsky 24, Meghan Dryburgh 14, Morgan Altavilla 14. (FC) Domenica Delaney 18, Ellie Schwartzman 14, Elsie Smith 10.
 Indiana 79, Uniontown 27
 Indiana 26 15 24 14 - 79
 Uniontown 5 7 10 5 - 27
 High scorers: (I) Hope Cook 20, Kate Kovalchick 17. (U) Summer Hawk 12.
 Chartiers Valley 51, Norwin 39
 Norwin 11 12 7 9 - 39
 Chartiers Valley 9 10 20 12 - 51
 High scorers: (N) Brianna Zajick 12, Danielle Rosso 12. (CV) Aislin Malcoom 20, Hallie Cowan 12.
 Lincoln Park 49, Ringgold 19
 Ringgold 7 3 4 5 - 19
 Lincoln Park 4 20 14 11 - 49
 High scorers: (R) Kirra Gerard 9. (LP) Sarah Scott 16, Aizlyn Thompson 11.
 Union 58, Sharon 34
 Union 8 14 8 4 - 34
 Sharon 15 10 18 15 - 58
 High scorers: (S) Jaysina Sellers 11, Julianne Hurst 11. (U) Zoe Lepri 16, Kayla Fruehstorfer 14, Kendall Preuhs 11, Elise Booker 10.
 Moon 49, Montour 40
 Montour 5 3 14 18 - 40
 Moon 13 11 8 17 - 49
 High scorers: (Moon) Olivia Lyscick 16. (Moon) Emma Theodorsson 25.
 Freeport 51, Kiski Area 40
 Kiski Area 5 14 10 11 - 40
 Freeport 13 11 15 12 - 51
 High scorers: (KA) Abbie Johns 16. (F) Melaina DeZort 18, Leah Hartman 15, Ava Solis 13.
 Franklin Regional 48, Hempfield 32
 Franklin Regional 18 5 10 15 - 48
 Hempfield 11 14 6 32 - 32
 High scorers: (FR) Maria Brush 13. (H) Brooke McCoy 15.
 Burgettstown 53, South Side Beaver 48
 Burgettstown 19 14 9 11 - 53
 South Side Beaver 15 5 10 18 - 48
 High scorers: (B) Avery Havelka 17, Kaitlyn Nease 14, Jill Frazier 13. (SSB) Emily Bailey 18, Emilee Boyd 13.

OTHER SCORES

Wrestling

WPIAL CLASS 3A TOURNAMENT

Championship

Section 1

106 - Antonino Walker, Plum pinned Tyler Kapusta, Franklin Regional, 1:48.
 113 - Troy Hohman, Penn-Trafford pinned Dom Coliczyk, Franklin Regional, 1:25.
 120 - Hayden Coy, Penn-Trafford dec. Ryan Klingensmith, Kiski Area, 10:4.
 126 - Carter Dibert, Franklin Regional

WPIAL CLASS 2A

Section 2

106 - Vincent Citrano, Plum, 13-1.
 132 - Dalton O'Neille, Franklin Regional pinned Ryan Auel, Penn-Trafford, 3:34.
 138 - Finn Solomon, Franklin Regional pinned Jake Burford, Highlands, 3:21.
 145 - Mario Samic, Franklin Regional pinned Michael Kinzey, Armstrong, 3:16.
 152 - Garrett Thompson, Franklin Regional pinned Lucas Paszek, Penn-Trafford, 2:35.
 160 - Enzo Morlacci, Kiski Area major dec. Gavyn Beck, Franklin Regional, 13-0.
 172 - Sammy Starr, Kiski Area pinned Jayden Resch, Hampton, 5:48.
 189 - Justin Hart, Hampton dec. Brayden Roscosky, Kiski Area, 4-2.
 215 - Logan Harmon, Armstrong pinned Christ Marion, Franklin Regional, 1:09.
 285 - Dawson Dietz, Hampton by medical forfeit Stone Joseph, Kiski Area.

Section 2

106 - Jake Layton, Connellsville dec. Jacob Braun, Latrobe, 5-0.
 113 - Vincent Kilkeary, Latrobe pinned Gabe Galioto, Thomas Jefferson, 1:02.
 120 - Ethan Lebin, Hempfield dec. Chad Ozias, Connellsville, 3-2.
 126 - Ethan Berginc, Hempfield dec. Mason Prinkey, Connellsville, 7-2.
 132 - Briar Priest, Hempfield dec. Nate Roth, Latrobe, 3-1.
 138 - Lucas Kapusta, Hempfield pinned Zach Bigam, Connellsville, 2:25.
 145 - John Altien, Norwin major dec. Ty Linsenbigler, Hempfield, 10-1.
 152 - Jared Keslar, Connellsville pinned Michael Zacur, Thomas Jefferson, 2:19.
 160 - Chase Kranitz, Norwin DEF Ethan Ansell, Connellsville.
 172 - Brian Fimerty, Thomas Jefferson pinned Bolivar Campusano, McKeesport, 4:32.
 189 - Logan Hoffman, Belle Vernon dec. Corey Boerio, Latrobe, 4-3.
 215 - Cole Weightman, Belle Vernon pinned Caleb Chismar, Greensburg Salem, 1:52.
 285 - William McChesney, Greensburg Salem dec. Isaiiah Vance, Hempfield, 4-3.

Section 3

106 - Tyler Chappell, Seneca Valley pinned Kelley Schaukowitzsch, Butler, 3:04.
 113 - Anthony Ferraro, Pine-Richland pinned Connor Smith, Seneca Valley, 3:14.
 120 - Dylan Coy, North Allegheny dec. Nick Jones, West Allegheny, 11-5.
 126 - Nick Gorman, North Allegheny pinned Nick Schaukowitzsch, Butler, 2:35.
 132 - Dylan Chappell, Seneca Valley pinned Nathan Monteparte, North Allegheny, 3:26.
 138 - Jonah Miller, New Castle dec. Brad Stipetch, North Allegheny, 4-3 TB2.
 145 - Kelin Laffey, Pine-Richland dec. Max Stedeford, North Allegheny, 7-2.
 152 - Alejandro Herrera-Rondon, Seneca Valley pinned Nate McMaster, Butler, 0:40.
 160 - Cole Spencer, Pine-Richland dec. Collin McCorkle, North Allegheny, 3-1.
 172 - Keith Brubach, Mars dec. Travis Stipetch, North Allegheny, 8-5.
 189 - Cooper Baxter, Butler dec. Liam Volk-Klos, Seneca Valley, 4-2.
 215 - Brady Lezco, North Allegheny dec. Andrew Sampson, Moon, 4-2 UTB.
 285 - Jake Pomykata, Butler pinned Seneca Harney, Seneca Valley, 3:43.

Section 4

106 - KJ Szewczyk, Waynesburg dec. Andrew Binni, Canon-McMillan, 2-1 TB2.
 113 - Joseph Simon, Waynesburg pinned Mason Kernan, Bethel Park, 1:58.
 120 - Mac Church, Waynesburg dec. Jacob Houpt, Canon-McMillan, 3-1.
 126 - Zander Phaturos, Waynesburg dec. Blake Reihner, Trinity, 3-1.
 132 - Colton Stoneking, Waynesburg dec. Costa Moore, Canon-McMillan, 4-0.
 138 - Cole Homet, Waynesburg dec. Dylan Evans, Chartiers Valley, 3-2.
 145 - Wyatt Henson, Waynesburg major dec. Bodie Mocco, Trinity, 13-5.
 152 - Roggo Welsh, Waynesburg pinned Giani Martini, Canon-McMillan, 0:51.
 160 - Nate Stephenson, Waynesburg dec. Christopher Beatty, Chartiers Valley, 5-2.
 172 - Luca Augustine, Waynesburg dec. Matthew Furman, Canon-McMillan, 5-1.
 189 - Eli Makel, Waynesburg pinned Philip Nave, Peters Township, 2:31.
 215 - Ty Banco, Trinity pinned Tyler Rohaley, Canon-McMillan, 4:59.
 285 - Ryan Howard, Waynesburg dec. Tyson Brophy, Trinity, 3-1.

WPIAL CLASS 2A

Championship

106 - Cooper Homack, Burrell dec. Jack Kazalzas, Quaker Valley, 3-0.
 113 - Chris Vargo, Bentworth dec. Damon Michaels, Elizabeth Forward, 4-1.
 120 - Niko Ferrra, Burrell dec. Bryce Rodriguez, Carlnton, 4-3.
 126 - Joey Fischer, South Park major dec. Joey Sentipal, Burgettstown, 12-3.
 132 - Jamison Poklembo, Mt. Pleasant dec. Dion Lyons, Valley, 9-2.
 138 - Ian Oswalt, Burrell dec. Ryan Harbert, Ligonier Valley, 10-5.
 145 - Kenny Duschek, Blackhawk dec. Tyler Cymmmerman, Derry Area, 5-2.
 152 - Grant Mackay, Laurel dec. Justin Richey, Quaker Valley, 9-2.
 160 - A.J. Corrado, Burrell pinned Oleg Melynk, Carlnton, 5:09.
 172 - Rune Lawrence, Frazier pinned Ethan Barr, McGuffey, 1:36.
 189 - Patrick Cutchember, Quaker Valley dec. Shane Kemper, Burgettstown, 6-0.
 215 - Dayton Pitzer, Mt. Pleasant pinned Eli Reese, Knoch, 0:37.
 285 - Mitch Miles, Laurel pinned Ian Fasano, Mt. Pleasant, 2:43.

WEB SITE

BASKETBALL

Want to see how your basketball team is doing? Check team-by-team or day-by-day schedules, results, rosters and section standings for all teams in the WPIAL and City League by visiting www.post-gazette.com.

Wrestling | WPIAL Class 2A tournament

Burrell adds 4-time winner Oswalt sweeps to crown at 138

By Ken Wunderley
 Tri-State Sports & News Service

Three wrestlers entered the WPIAL Class 2A tournament Saturday at Canon-McMillan High School with a chance to join the four-time champions club. Only one was successful.

Burrell's Ian Oswalt became the 31st wrestler in the 86-year history of the WPIAL to win four titles with a 10-5 win against Ligonier Valley's Ryan Harbert in the 138-pound final.

"It wasn't my best WPIAL tournament performance, but I'm glad I came out on top," said Oswalt who won his previous titles at 113, 120 and 132.

"We have a poster in our wrestling room with all the Burrell wrestlers who have won WPIAL titles. Now I can join Joe Makara and Jordan Shields as the schools only four-time champs."

Derry's Tyler Cymmerman and Freedom's Trent Schultheis came up short in their attempts to become a four-time champs.

Cymmerman dropped a 5-2 decision to Blackhawk's Kenny Duschek in the 145-pound final. It was the second title for Duschek, who claimed his first title last season for Freedom. He is the first wrestler in Blackhawk history to win a WPIAL title.

"This title means more to me than the first," Duschek said. "Knowing that he was a three-time champ gave me even more incentive. Us wrestlers always compete with each other."

Schultheis had his

hopes of becoming a four-time champ dashed in the 189-pound semifinals. He dropped a 4-2 decision to Burgettstown's Shane Kemper, but did earn a trip to next week's Southwest Regional tournament with two wins in the consolation bracket, including a pin of Washington's Mike Ewing in the third-place bout.

South Park's Joey Fischer claimed his third title with a 12-3 domination of Burgettstown's Joey Sentipal.

"It's awesome to get No. 3," said Fischer, who has his sights on a bigger prize. "It's another stepping-stone to my ultimate goal of winning a state title."

Burrell's A.J. Corrado won his second title with a third-period pin of Carlnton's Oleg Melynk at 160 pounds. "I wrestle every match with the same mentality, to score as many points as possible and dominate the match."

Mount Pleasant's Dayton Pitzer and Laurel's Mitch Miles were also repeat winners. Pitzer needed only 37 seconds to pin Knoch's Eli Reese in the 215-pound title to win his second title in three years. Miles pinned Pitzer's teammate, Ian Fasano, at 2:43 to win his second heavyweight title.

Four freshmen won titles: Burrell's Cooper Hornack (at 106); Bentworth's Chris Vargo (113); Mount Pleasant's Jamison Poklembo (132) and Frazier's Rune Lawrence (172).

The top three finishers in each weight class advance to the Southwest

Highlights

Trinity snaps NA's 30-game win streak

From local dispatches

Less than a month after Trinity snapped Chartiers Valley's state record 64-game winning streak, the Hillers came back to end Class 6A No. 1-ranked North Allegheny's 30-game string with a 59-56 non-section home win against the Tigers. Trinity (15-1), ranked No. 1 in Class 5A, got a double-double from senior forward Courtney Dahlquist, who scored six points in the fourth quarter and finished with 17 points and 10 boards, while junior guard Alyssa Clutter finished with a season-high 23. North Allegheny (17-1) had not lost since a 46-40 defeat at the hands of Elizabeth Seton of

Maryland Jan. 20, 2020. The Tigers had not lost to a WPIAL squad in 33 games since Norwin beat them Jan. 2, 2020.

Top boys games
 • Sophomore Jimmy Kunst led all scorers with 20 points and sophomore Chandler Thimons had 10 points and 10 rebounds as Class 5A No. 4 Highlands (11-3, 9-1) completed a season sweep of Section 4 rival Mars (13-1, 9-1), 65-52.

Star of the night
 • Devin Carney was 16 of 31 from the field with a game-high 49 points to lead Butler (9-7, 4-6) to a 74-71 overtime Section 1 win against Class 6A No. 5 Pine-Richland (9-5, 6-4).

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INTEREST-FREE

Pro Football

Father Time isn't always forthcoming

COLLIER, FROM B-1

When Steelers personnel guru Kevin Colbert sits up at night considering the immediate future of quarterback Ben Roethlisberger, for example, his ready references probably don't include the National Institute on Aging's investigation on Putative Aging Intervention Agents in a Genetically Heterogenous Mouse Model.

Like just about everyone else in sports, he's more likely to and perhaps even better served by simply watching athletes similar in age to Ben, or even older, so as to frame the pressing questions regarding No. 7.

Ben will be 39 a week from Tuesday, meaning that when the next NFL season starts, he'll be closer to 40, so it was perhaps notable this week that Serena Williams, age 39, left an Australian Open news conference in tears after a couple of dozen unforced errors got her dismissed in two sets by 23-year-old Naomi Osaka. A flash fire of speculation that Serena had just walked off the Melbourne court for the final time blazed through the news cycle, but a quick dissemination of the fact that she's one Grand Slam singles victory short of Margaret Court's 24 appears to have gotten it under control.

Ten days earlier, quarterback Tom Brady, age 43, won his unprecedented seventh Super Bowl by outplaying 25-year-old Patrick Mahomes. Thus the Buccaneers QB left his sport's championship not in tears but toward an apparently generous flow of avocado tequila.

Brady took special delight in orchestrating a Twitter video excoriating his critics, the people who had helped proliferate the not-exactly-hilarious notion that 43-year-old quarterbacks are not likely to win a Super Bowl.

"Have you seen much of old Number 12 lately—I mean really old Number 12?" went one such analysis. "Not only did 2019 bring the first evidence that Brady could not execute every throw anymore, it brought irrefutable video evidence that he didn't always make easy throws to open receivers. He completed 61% of his passes. Mason Rudolph completed 62%."

Yeah, that was me, one year ago almost to the day.

What I didn't know, among many, many things, was that Brady's biological age is closer to 33 even as his chronological age is 43. My excuse is that I had not talked with Bill Presutti of South Fayette, who has spent a lot of time thinking about the relationship between the two, even to the point of having taught a fitness course for older adults through Carnegie Mellon's Osher Lifelong Learning Institute after three decades on the business faculty at Duquesne.

NFL notebook

Receiver's brain donated after recent death in Florida

From wire dispatches

Vincent Jackson's brain was donated for research to discover whether he had chronic traumatic encephalopathy (CTE), a family spokesperson confirmed.

The former NFL wide receiver was found dead Monday in a Tampa-area hotel room in Florida. Jackson, who played for the Tampa Bay Buccaneers and San Diego Chargers in a 12-year career, was 38.

The New York Times was first to report that Jackson's brain will be studied at Boston University, known for its CTE research and extensive brain bank. The neurodegenerative disease has been linked to concussions

DID YOU KNOW?

The oldest athlete to appear in one of the four major North American professional sports was MLB pitcher Satchel Paige. He was 59 years, 351 days on Sept. 25, 1965—the night he pitched three scoreless innings for the Kansas City A's against the Boston Red Sox at Kansas City's Municipal Stadium.

In an email a few weeks ago explaining why he would be rooting for Brady to win in Super Bowl LV, Bill estimated Tom's biological age at 33, and further advised that "If you are interested in calculating your biological age, you can go to biological-age.com to get an idea of how old you are biologically."

For me, that's a big "no thanks." When you're 67, lookin' '77, actin' '87, less is more on the geriatric progression front. But it might be helpful if Ben answered the 25 questions at that site and shared the results with Colbert. Failing that, I just flat out asked Bill the other day what he'd guess Roethlisberger's biological age to be.

"Just looking at him," Bill chuckled, "my guess is that his biological age is probably close to his chronological age."

No help, Bill.

The question appeared to get more urgent this week as the position of the parties calcified into essentially this:

Ben and his agent: Money won't be an issue.

Art Rooney II and Kevin Colbert: Oh yes it will.

If the Steelers thought Brady's performance in the Super Bowl—he was 21 for 29 for 201 yards and three touchdowns, with no picks and a passer rating of 125.8—means that Ben has one or two or three or four more good years in him, that's one thing. If it means only that there's no one like Brady, that's likely quite another.

"I hated him when he was with the Patriots," Bill said. "My wife even said, 'You're going to root for Tom Brady?' I said, 'You know, I am going to root for him. He's 43 years old, and if you look at him, the way he moves around on the field, my God, a 43-year-old guy playing against 24 year olds.' He doesn't look any different frankly. As committed as he is to winning, he's as committed to keeping himself in a condition where he can compete at 43. It's to the point where he's eating cauliflower ice cream, or stuff like that. He's an anomaly. I don't think we'll ever see anything like that again."

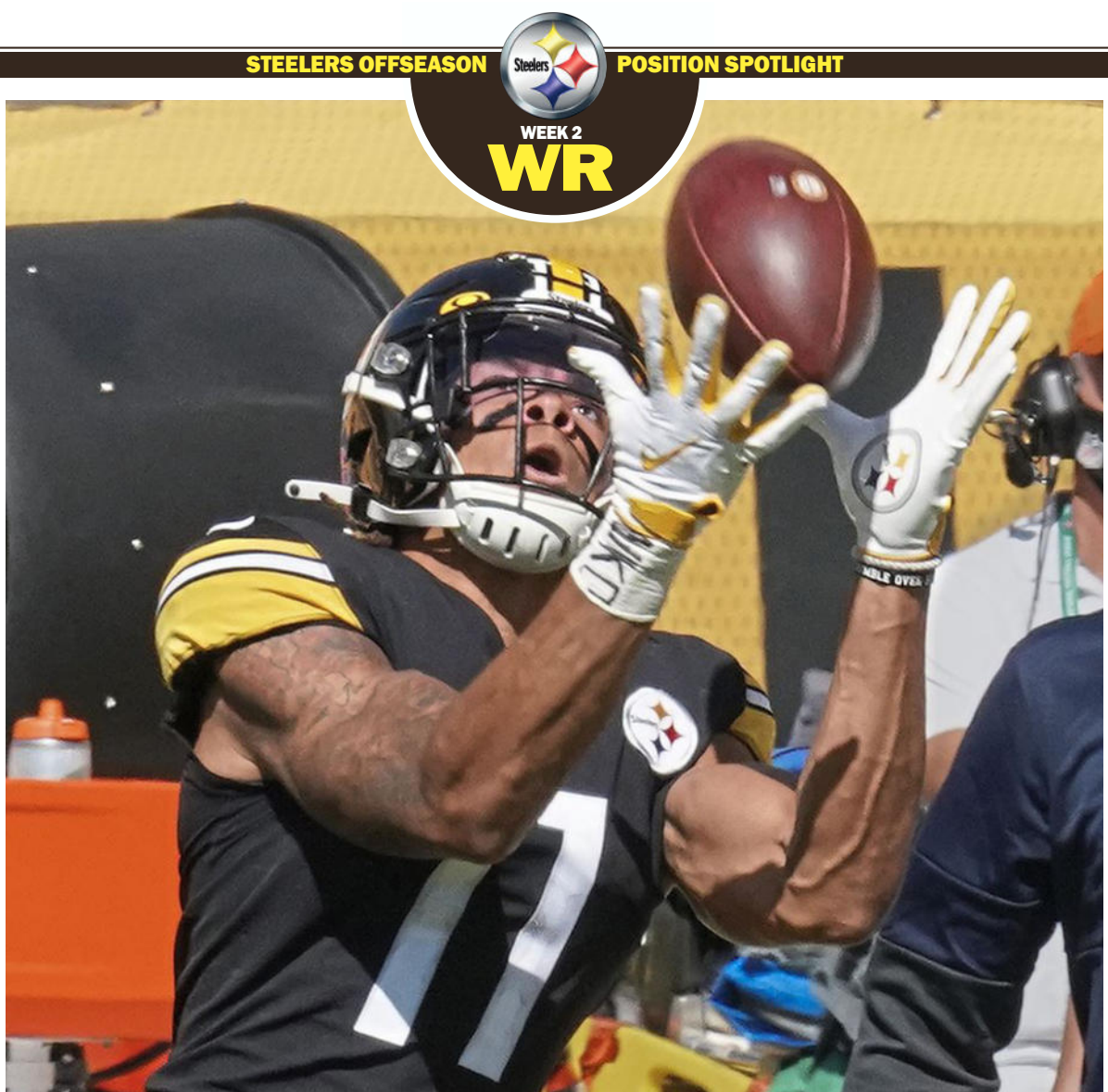
Probably not, but it might at least be a conversation starter at Steelers headquarters:

"So Ben, do you happen to like cauliflower ice cream, or stuff like that?"

and subconcussive impacts, which are frequently suffered by football players over many years in the sport.

The family spokesperson told The Washington Post Friday via email, "If anything can be learned from his death that might help someone else, Vincent would want that since he was passionate during his life about impacting others around him."

A preliminary report issued Thursday by the Hillsborough County Medical Examiner Department indicated (per WFLA) that Jackson might have been dead for as many as three days before his death was determined on Monday.



Peter Diana/Post-Gazette

Chase Claypool caught 62 passes for 873 yards and scored 11 touchdowns in his rookie season.

Steelers struggling offense has weapons to succeed

ANALYSIS BY RAY FITTIPALDO ■ PITTSBURGH POST-GAZETTE

STEELERS SPOTLIGHT DATA

Names you need to know between now and training camp:



Peter Diana/Post-Gazette

JuJu Smith-Schuster: Too expensive to keep?

Receivers: Current depth chart

Player	Acquired	School	Contract status
JuJu Smith-Schuster	2017 (Rd 2)	USC	Unrestricted FA
Diontae Johnson	2019 (Rd 3)	Toledo	Signed through 2021
Chase Claypool	2020 (Rd 2)	Notre Dame	Signed through 2023
James Washington	2018 (Rd 2)	Oklahoma State	Signed through 2021
Ray-Ray McCloud	2020 FA	Clemson	Restricted FA

Draft: The top five

The top five wide receiver prospects in the NFL draft, according to CBSsports.com:

Player	Grade	Ht	Wt	College
Ja'Marr Chase	Junior	6-2	208	LSU
Jaylen Waddle	Junior	5-10	182	Alabama
DeVonta Smith	Senior	6-1	175	Alabama
Rondale Moore	Sophomore	5-9	180	Purdue
Rashod Bateman	Junior	6-2	210	Minnesota

seem like a smart move by the front office unless there is a plan to use him in a more effective way. And even if there was a plan, the Steelers simply might not have enough money under the salary cap to make it work.

The good news for the Steelers is if they decided against signing Smith-Schuster, they are well-positioned to absorb the loss. Chase Claypool, Diontae Johnson and James Washington are three very capable receivers that are under contract next season.

Claypool has traits to develop into a No. 1 receiver. As a rookie, he led the Steelers in touchdowns (11) and was second on the team in receiving yards (873). The Steelers desperately needed a deep threat for their offense, and Claypool provided some big plays and was among the league leaders in drawing pass inter-

ference penalties.

Steelers quarterbacks had a 110.4 rating when targeting Claypool—the best rating on the team—and he averaged 14.1 yards per catch. Also, 41 of his 62 catches went for first downs. Roethlisberger quickly figured out he could look for Claypool in clutch situations, and Claypool should have an even bigger impact in his second season.

Johnson led the Steelers in receiving yards (923) and, unfortunately, drops (13). Entering his third NFL season he is by far the offense's most inconsistent performer. At times, he looks like a true No. 1 receiver and other times he looks like he barely belongs in the NFL.

In one of the biggest games of the season last year in Buffalo, Tomlin had to bench him after two early drops. His issues with drops

had a negative impact on the offense because he drew a team-high 144 targets. The Steelers, in essence, have to decide if they can trust him.

When he's on his game Johnson can be electric. He had three 100-yard receiving games, including one in the AFC wild-card loss to the Browns. He is among the most elusive receivers in the league in the open field, with 394 of his 923 receiving yards coming after the catch.

There is more potential to tap with Johnson, and the Steelers must make sure it comes out, especially if Smith-Schuster leaves.

One year after leading the Steelers in receiving yards, Washington had a reduced role due to Claypool's emergence. He is entering the final year of his contract and could have a larger role next season.

Washington had 30 catches for 293 yards and a career-best five touchdowns. He might not be a player the Steelers sign to a second contract, but he can be plenty valuable in 2021.

There was a stretch of games in the middle of last season when Ray-Ray McCloud got more offensive snaps than Washington. With Canada in full control of the offense next season, McCloud's role could grow unless the Steelers find another player of his ilk to run the jet sweeps and other gadget plays that were modestly successful in the first half of last season. He is a restricted free agent and would have to agree to a deal to come back.

Even if Smith-Schuster is not on the team next season, this is an above-average group of receivers, but don't be surprised if general manager Kevin Colbert adds one in the draft. Colbert has drafted a receiver every year since 2012, and seven of them in that span have been taken in the second or third rounds.

And it's another draft loaded with quality prospects. With Washington entering the final year of his rookie deal, the Steelers could keep their drafting streak alive in an attempt to keep some continuity in their receiving corps into 2022.

Ray Fittipaldo: rfittipaldo@post-gazette.com

SCOREBOARD

All times Eastern

NBA

EASTERN CONFERENCE

Atlantic Division

W	L	Pct	GB	
Philadelphia	20	10	.667	—
Brooklyn	19	12	.613	1½
Boston	15	14	.517	4½
Toronto	15	15	.500	5
New York	14	16	.467	6

Southeast Division

W	L	Pct	GB	
Charlotte	13	15	.464	—
Miami	12	17	.414	1½
Atlanta	12	17	.414	1½
Orlando	12	18	.400	2
Washington	9	17	.346	3

Central Division

W	L	Pct	GB	
Milwaukee	17	13	.567	—
Indiana	15	14	.517	1½
Chicago	12	16	.429	4
Cleveland	10	20	.333	7
Detroit	8	21	.276	8½

WESTERN CONFERENCE

Southwest Division

W	L	Pct	GB	
San Antonio	16	11	.593	—
Memphis	13	12	.520	2
Dallas	13	15	.464	3½
New Orleans	12	17	.414	5
Houston	11	17	.393	5½

Northwest Division

W	L	Pct	GB	
Utah	24	6	.800	—
Portland	18	10	.643	5
Denver	16	13	.552	7
Oklahoma City	11	18	.379	12
Minnesota	7	23	.233	17½

Pacific Division

W	L	Pct	GB	
L.A. Lakers	22	8	.733	—
L.A. Clippers	22	9	.710	½
Phoenix	18	10	.643	3
Golden State	16	14	.533	6
Sacramento	12	16	.429	9

Friday's Games

Denver 120, Cleveland 103
Orlando 124, Golden State 120
Boston 121, Atlanta 109
Philadelphia 112, Chicago 105
Phoenix 132, New Orleans 114
Milwaukee 98, Oklahoma City 85
Memphis 109, Detroit 95
Toronto 86, Minnesota 81
L.A. Clippers 116, Utah 112
Denver at Charlotte, ppd
Dallas at Houston, ppd

Saturday's Games

Golden State at Charlotte, late
Miami at L.A. Lakers, late
Phoenix at Memphis, late
Sacramento at Chicago, late
Washington at Portland, late
San Antonio at New York, ppd
Indiana at Houston, ppd

Sunday's Games

Boston at New Orleans, 3:30 p.m.
Detroit at Orlando, 7 p.m.
Minnesota at New York, 7 p.m.
Oklahoma City at Cleveland, 7 p.m.
Philadelphia at Toronto, 7 p.m.
Denver at Atlanta, 7:30 p.m.
Brooklyn at L.A. Clippers, 8 p.m.
Sacramento at Milwaukee, 9 p.m.

GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA	
Florida	15	11	2	2	24	55	45
Carolina	15	11	3	1	23	58	43
Chicago	19	9	6	4	22	55	56
Tampa Bay	14	10	3	1	21	54	32
Columbus	18	8	6	4	20	53	60
Dallas	12	5	3	4	14	40	34
Nashville	16	6	10	0	12	36	55
Detroit	19	4	12	3	11	37	63

West Division

GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA	
St. Louis	17	10	5	2	22	55	51
Vegas	14	10	3	1	21	43	31
Colorado	13	8	4	1	17	41	27
Arizona	15	7	6	3	17	42	45
Los Angeles	16	6	6	3	15	47	46
Angeles	17	6	8	3	15	33	45
Anaheim	17	6	8	3	15	33	45
Minnesota	13	7	6	0	14	33	35
San Jose	15	6	7	2	14	40	54

North Division

GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA	
Toronto	18	13	3	2	28	67	48
Edmonton	19	11	8	0	22	65	61
Winnipeg	17	10	6	1	21	57	46
Montreal	15	9	4	2	20	52	39
Calgary	17	8	8	1	17	46	47
Vancouver	21	8	12	1	17	62	74
Ottawa	19	4	14	1	9	44	78

Friday's Games

Carolina 5, Chicago 3
Florida 7, Detroit 2
Edmonton 2, Calgary 1
Winnipeg 2, Vancouver 0

Saturday's Games

Buffalo 3, New Jersey 2
N.Y. Rangers 4, Washington 1
Vegas vs. Colorado at Edgewood Tahoe Resort, late
Florida at Detroit, late
Los Angeles at Arizona, late
N.Y. Islanders at Pittsburgh, late
Nashville at Columbus, late
San Jose at St. Louis, late
Tampa Bay at Carolina, late
Toronto at Montreal, late
Minnesota at Anaheim, late
Calgary at Edmonton, late
Chicago at Carolina, ppd
Tampa Bay at Dallas, ppd

Sunday's Games

Philadelphia vs. Boston at Edgewood Tahoe Resort, 2 p.m.
Montreal at Ottawa, 7 p.m.
New Jersey at Washington, 7 p.m.
Denver at Vancouver, 10 p.m.

23. (52) Josh Biliicki, Ford, .000.
24. (8) Tyler Reddick, Chevrolet, .000.
25. (53) Garrett Smithley, Ford, .000.
26. (10) Aric Almirola, Ford, .000.
27. (12) Ryan Blaney, Ford, .000.
28. (78) Scott Heckert, Ford, .000.
29. (00) Quin Houff, Chevrolet, .000.
30. (17) Chris Buescher, Ford, .000.
31. (38) Anthony Alfredo, Ford, .000.
32. (21) Matt DiBenedetto, Ford, .000.
33. (6) Ryan Newman, Ford, .000.
34. (16) AJ Allmendinger, Chevrolet, .000.
35. (99) Daniel Suarez, Chevrolet, .000.
36. (48) Alex Bowman, Chevrolet, .000.
37. (43) Erik Jones, Chevrolet, .000.
38. (96) Ty Dillon, Toyota, .000.
39. (15) James Davison, Chevrolet, .000.
40. (66) Timmy Hill, Ford, .000.

TENNIS

Australian Open Results

Saturday

Women's Singles

Championship

Naomi Osaka (3), Japan, def. Jennifer Brady (22), United States, 6-4, 6-3.

COLLEGE BASKETBALL

Saturday's Men's Scores

EAST

Army 69, Holy Cross 65
Binghamton 76, NJIT 63
Bryant 60, Merrimack 58
Colgate 82, Boston U. 72
Daemen 82, Mercy 51
Fairfield 66, Canisius 53
Fairleigh Dickinson 76, Mount St. Mary's 71, OT
Florida St. 79, Pittsburgh 72
Georgetown 81, Seton Hall 75
Iona 88, Monmouth (NJ) 65
LIU 87, CCSU 74
Loyola (Md.) 75, Lehigh 47
Navy 72, American 60
New Hampshire 69, Mass.-Lowell 67
Niagara 64, Siena 62
Quinnipiac 80, Rider 64
Roberts Wesleyan 100, D'Youville 69
Saint Joseph's (NY), La Salle 82, OT
St. Francis (NY) 88, Sacred Heart 76
St. Thomas Aquinas 71, Molloy 61
Stony Brook 59, Albany (NY) 43
Syracuse 75, Notre Dame 67
Villanova 68, UConn 60
Wagner 67, St. Francis (Pa.) 52

SOUTH

Alabama 82, Vanderbilt 78
Belmont 90, Tennessee Tech 66
Catawba 94, Anderson (SC) 90
Chowan 89, Erskine 72
Coll. of Charleston 86, Columbus St. 83, OT
E. Illinois 76, Austin Peay 69
Elon 75, William & Mary 54
Florida 70, Georgia 63
Florida A&M 71, NC A&T 57
Furman 70, Mercer 60
George Mason 79, VCU 76, OT
Georgia College 72, Clayton St. 60
Georgia St. 65, Troy 53
Georgia Tech 87, Miami 60
Jacksonville 86, Stetson 82
Jacksonville St. 77, Tennessee St. 76
Kentucky 70, Tennessee 55
LSU 104, Auburn 80
Lee 70, Montealeo 55
Mississippi St. 66, Mississippi 56
Missouri 93, South Carolina 78
Morehead St. 79, UT Martin 69
NC State 80, Wake Forest 62
Nicholls 79, Cent. Arkansas 68
North Carolina 99, Louisiana 54
North Greenville 103, King (Tenn.) 100, OT
Old Dominion 65, UAB 58
Richmond 79, Duquesne 72
SC-Aiken 73, Francis Marion 70
South Alabama 56, Appalachian St. 54
Southern Wesleyan 78, Barton 59
The Citadel 75, VMI 74
UCF 84, Tulane 81
UNC-Greensboro 60, Chattanooga 55

West Florida 71, Auburn-Montgomery 59
West Georgia 96, Shorter 75
Wofford 80, W. Carolina 56
Wright St. 77, N. Kentucky 71

MIDWEST

Augustana (SD) 60, Wayne St. (Neb.) 57
Bemidji St. 109, Minn.-Crookston 85
Cleveland St. 67, Fort Wayne 55
Detroit 80, Robert Morris 61
Fairmont St. 79, Alderson-Broaddus 78
Illinois 94, Minnesota 63
Indianapolis 73, Missouri S&T 64
Kansas 67, Texas Tech 61
Kent St. 64, E. Michigan 51
Lake Superior St. 72, Wis.-Parkside 68
Lindenwood (Mo.) 116, McKendree 109, 2OT
Malone 96, Cedarville 73
Miami (Ohio) 69, N. Illinois 64
Michigan St. 78, Indiana 71
Michigan Tech 75, Grand Valley St. 62
Milwaukee 89, Oakland 87, 2OT
Minnesota St. 93, Concordia (St.P.) 89
N. Michigan 100, Davenport 70
NW Missouri St. 88, Washburn 85, OT
Northwood (Mich.) 73, Ashland 68
Ohio Dominican 82, Lake Erie 77
Oklahoma 66, Iowa St. 56
Purdue 75, Nebraska 58
Rockhurst 68, Quincy 62
SE Missouri 94, E. Kentucky 72
Sioux Falls 61, SW Minnesota 52
South Dakota 86, Oral Roberts 84
Southwest Baptist 73, Ill.-Springfield 60
St. Cloud St. 91, Minn. Duluth 86
Truman St. 76, William Jewell 70
Walsh 66, Tiffin 62
Wayne St. (Mich.) 86, Saginaw Valley St. 67
Winona St. 90, Upper Iowa 67
Youngstown St. 77, UPU 70

SOUTHWEST

Kansas St. 62, TCU 54
Texas A&M-CC 77, Lamar 68
West Virginia 84, Texas 82

FAR WEST

Arizona 81, Southern Cal 72
BYU 88, Loyola Marymount 71
E. Washington 90, Montana 76
Long Beach St. 74, Cal Poly 69
Pacific 80, Portland 58
Portland St. 71, Idaho 40
S. Utah 77, Sacramento St. 57
Santa Clara 86, Pepperdine 82
Washington St. 85, Stanford 76, 3OT
Weber St. 74, N. Arizona 52

Saturday's Women's Scores

EAST

American U. 51, Loyola (Md.) 50
Boston U. 70, Holy Cross 58
Drexel 71, Towson 55
Fairfield 51, Monmouth (NJ) 21
Maine 82, New Hampshire 53
Maryland 94, Minnesota 62
Mount St. Mary's 92, Bryant 54
Niagara 83, St. Peter's 82
Rhode Island 69, St. Bonaventure 49
Rice 64, Marshall 48
Rutgers 75, Illinois 46
Seton Hall 67, Providence 55
West Virginia 81, TCU 78

SOUTH

Appalachian St. 58, South Alabama 56
Belmont 73, Tennessee Tech 61
Cent. Arkansas 61, Nicholls 50
Davidson 68, George Mason 42
Delaware 94, James Madison 88, OT
E. Illinois 62, Austin Peay 59
East Carolina 74, Wichita St. 59
Florida Gulf Coast 89, Jacksonville 64
Gardner-Webb 75, Longwood 73
Georgia Southern 84, NC Central 60
High Point 67, Hampton 66
Howard 79, Coppin St. 60
Jacksonville St. 67, Tennessee St. 61
Murray St. 68, SIU-Edwardsville 60
NC A&T 65, Norfolk St. 60
New Orleans 64, McNeese St. 53
North Florida 74, Lipscomb 57
Northwestern 63, UNC-Wilmington 52
Old Dominion 70, UAB 47
Radford 74, Charleston Southern 73

Richmond 67, La Salle 61
Samford 77, ETSU 58
South Florida 78, Tulane 69
Southern Miss. 76, FIU 60
Stetson 49, Kennesaw St. 32
Troy 84, Georgia St. 78
UCF 55, Tulsa 53
UNC-Asheville 57, Winthrop 46
UT Martin 81, E. Kentucky 62
VCU 64, Saint Joseph's 49

MIDWEST

Buffalo 83, Ball St. 76
Creighton 83, DePaul 72
Green Bay 61, Wright St. 56
Houston 75, Cincinnati 66
Illinois St. 81, Drake 71
Kent St. 69, N. Illinois 65
Loyola of Chicago 66, N. Iowa 64, OT
Milwaukee 72, Ill.-Chicago 53
Missouri St. 75, Bradley 62
N. Kentucky 88, Oakland 75
Nebraska-Omaha 75, North Dakota 72
Northwestern 67, Wisconsin 54
Robert Morris 77, Fort Wayne 63
S. Dakota St. 69, N. Dakota St. 60
S. Illinois 76, Indiana St. 52
SE Missouri 61, Morehead St. 52
Saint Louis 64, Dayton 57
South Dakota 77, Oral Roberts 54
UConn 83, Xavier 32
UMKC 85, Denver 69
Valparaiso 71, Evansville 56
Youngstown St. 64, Cleveland St. 61

SOUTHWEST

Lamar 68, Texas A&M-CC 57
Oklahoma St. 80, Iowa St. 73
Texas Tech 99, Kansas 98, OT

FAR WEST

BYU 75, Portland 68
Boise St. 81, Utah St. 72
Cal Poly 45, Long Beach St. 42
California Baptist 79, Grand Canyon 64
Gonzaga 69, San Diego 47
Idaho 75, Portland St. 64, OT
Montana 65, E. Washington 62
Montana St. 88, Idaho St. 80, OT
N. Arizona 85, Weber St. 68
Pepperdine 62, Saint Mary's (Cal) 42
Sacramento St. 73, S. Utah 66
San Diego St. 79, Fresno St. 77
San Francisco 87, Santa Clara 64
Seattle 71, Rio Grande 64, OT
UC Irvine 68, Cal St.-Fullerton 60
UC San Diego 74, UC Riverside 67
Utah Valley 56, New Mexico St. 47

GOLF

PGA Tour Genesis Invitational Par Scores

Friday

At Riviera Country Club

Pacific Palisades, Calif.

Purse: \$9.3 million

Yardage: 7,040; Par: 71

Second Round

Top 25 And Ties

Sam Burns	64-66	130	-12
Tyler McCumber	67-68	135	-7
Jason Kokrak	67-68	135	-7
Dustin Johnson	68-67	135	-7
Joaquin Niemann	67-68	135	-7
Max Homa	66-70	137	-6
Jordan Spieth	68-68	136	-6
Wyndham Clark	67-69	136	-6
Alex Noren	67-70	137	-5
Scott Harrington	69-68	137	-5
Cameron Smith	67-70	137	-5
Patrick Cantlay	66-71	137	-5
Brooks Koepka	68-70	138	-4
Will Zalatoris	69-69	138	-4
Kevin Streelman	72-66	138	-4
Tony Finau	71-67	138	-4
Andrew Landry	69-69	138	-4
Sebastian Munoz	68-71	139	-3
J.B. Holmes	70-69	139	-3
Wesley Bryan	69-70	139	-3
Jon Rahm	70-69	139	-3
Sung Kang	71-68	139	-3
Robert Duncan	69-70	139	-3
Jim Furyk	69-70	139	-3
Matt Jones	67-72	139	-3

Talor Gooch 68-71 - 139 -3

TRANSACTIONS

Saturday's Transactions

BASEBALL

Major League Baseball

American League

TEXAS RANGERS – Assigned RHP Jimmy Herget outright to Round Rock (Triple-A West).

National League

PITTSBURGH PIRATES – Agreed to terms with 3B Todd Frazier on a minor league contract.

FOOTBALL

National Football League

CLEVELAND BROWNS – Signed CB Robert Jackson.

HOCKEY

National Hockey League

ARIZONA COYOTES – Recalled G David Tendeck from Rapid City (ECHL) and D Aaron Ness from Tucson (AHL) loans. Loaned C Frederik Gauthier to Tucson (AHL).

COLUMBUS BLUE JACKETS – Recalled D Gabriel Carlsson from the minor league taxi squad.

DETROIT RED WINGS – Designated D Alex Biega for assignment to the taxi squad.

LOS ANGELES KINGS – Recalled C Rasmus Kupari from Ontario (AHL) taxi squad loan.

MONTREAL CANADIENS – Recalled LW Michael Frolik from the minor league taxi squad loan.

NEW JERSEY DEVILS – Named C Nico Hischier captain.

NEW YORK RANGERS – Recalled Ds Anthony Bitetto and Libor Hajek, G Igor Shesterkin and RW Kaapo Kakko from the minor league taxi squad. Designated G Keith Kinkaid for assignment to the taxi squad.

BETTING LINE

Pregame.com Line

NBA

Favorite	Sunday Line	Underdog
Boston	2 ½ (233)	NEW ORLEANS
TORONTO	OFF	OFF
ORLANDO	1	210
Oklahoma City	2 (OFF)	CLEVELAND
NEW YORK	2	215
Denver	3 (230)	ATLANTA
L.A. CLIPPERS	5	240
MILWAUKEE	OFF	OFF
Sacramento	OFF	Sacramento

COLLEGE BASKETBALL

Favorite	Sunday Line	Underdog
Rhode Island	9	GEORGE WASH.
NIAGARA	OFF	OFF
OHIO STATE	1	Siena
HOUSTON	14	Michigan
COASTL CAROL.	7	Georgia Southern
QUINNIPAC	OFF	Rider
TEMPLE	2	South Florida
RUTGERS	4	Maryland
SOUTH DAKOTA	OFF	Oral Roberts
ST. BONVNTURE	3	Davidson
UNLV	13 ½	SAN JOSE ST.
DRAKE	13	Evansville
UALR	4	LA.-MONROE
IOWA	11 ½	Penn St.
S. ILLINOIS	1	Valparaiso
UTEP	1	FAU
Wisconsin	6	N'WESTERN
XAVIER	8	Butler
BALL ST.	7	W. Michigan

National Hockey League

Favorite	Sunday Line	Underdog	Line
BOSTON	-190	Philadelphia	+175
OTTAWA	OFF	Montreal	OFF
VANCOUVER	-113	Winnipeg	+103
WASHINGTON	OFF	New Jersey	OFF

Morning briefing

Austrian puts end to Shiffrin's streak

From local and wire dispatches

Katharina Liensberger held her right arm up in celebration before topping over in the finish area and lying face down in the snow for a few moments.

The Austrian skier also had just toppled Mikaela Shiffrin.

By triumphing at the world championships in Cortina D'Ampezzo, Italy, Liensberger ended the American's record streak of four slalom titles.

"It felt like flying a little bit, just getting faster with every gate, all the energy into each turn," said Liensberger, who was fastest in both runs to beat overall World Cup leader Petra Vlhova of Slovakia by one second.

"She's leading this sort of next generation of athletes," Shiffrin said. "She's going to keep the inspiration going and this is one thing that the sport always needs is someone bringing in inspiration. That's really cool."

Horse racing

Mishriff powered home to wear down American ace Charlatan and win the world's most valuable race, the \$20 million Saudi Cup in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia. The first prize was \$10 million. The John Gosden-trained colt, owned by Prince Faisal, made his stamina tell over the nine furlongs after the U.S. heavyweights, Charlatan and Knicks Go, had gone head

Auto Racing / Golf

NASCAR

Fledgling Kaulig team hooks 'trophy hunter'

Allmendinger separates himself with experience on Daytona's road course

The Associated Press

AJ Allmendinger is back, racing for wins this time, and eager to help young Kaulig Racing reach the big show.

Allmendinger will run his first Cup race since the 2018 season finale in Kaulig's first Cup race not at a superspeedway. The team last week made its second Daytona 500 — a critical first step in trying to become a full-time Cup team — and now it has dusted off ol' 'Dinger to take another shot Sunday on Daytona's road course.

Allmendinger is a ringer with 15 appearances in the Rolex 24 sports car race in Daytona. Nearly everyone else? The bulk of the Cup field ran it for the very first time in August 202, when the pandemic pushed Daytona's winding 14-turn, 3.61-mile circuit onto the calendar for the first time.

His familiarity with Daytona made Allmendinger the smart pick for Matt Kaulig to take another step forward. NASCAR added Sunday's road course race to the schedule in December and Kaulig persuaded his "trophy hunter" Allmendinger to help pull the team to the top level.

"I am pumped to be racing in the Cup Series for Kaulig Racing," Allmendinger said.

Allmendinger was weary of the grind when he lost his job at the end of 2018. He had no desire to drive for mediocre teams just to have a seat. He decided to move on with



Sunday

What: O'Reilly Auto Parts 253 at Daytona, Daytona International Speedway road course.

When: 3 p.m.

TV: WPGH.

The skinny: Chase Elliott won on the road course in 2020 after starting seventh.

his life.

He planned to do television work and maybe moonlight for team owners he considers friends. Kaulig kept Allmendinger engaged in 2019 by giving him quality cars that could win in five Xfinity races. The program swelled to 11 races last season and the "Trophy Hunter" had three victories in 16 starts.

Allmendinger was helping Kaulig grow a program. The team started in 2016 and this season Allmendinger will run full time for the Xfinity championship as one of three Kaulig contenders. He'll also drive select Cup races as part of Kaulig's development.

Having a central role in Kaulig's push to the top has made NASCAR enjoyable again for Allmendinger. He remembered last week when Kaz Grala made his first Daytona 500 start just how special the sport had once been to him.

"I was standing next to Kaz by the car during driver intros and I think veterans sometimes, we lose sight of how big the 500 is," All-

mendinger said. "When you are just standing there and you see somebody who has made his first 500, his eyes lit up — it made me feel good."

Track change

NASCAR this week tweaked the backstretch chicane on the Daytona course after dirt and grass played a pivotal role in the Feb. 9 messy Busch Clash.

Drivers in that exhibition learned the hard way not to cut that chicane because in short-cutting some asphalt they were dragging debris all over the speedway. Martin Truex Jr. wrecked while leading when he drove through dirt; others complained about windshield visibility.

NASCAR, based on driver suggestions, added rumble strips to the backstretch chicane to prevent drivers from using the grass. The rumble strip to the driver's right is about 36 feet long; the strip to the driver's left is about 30 feet.

NASCAR champion Chase Elliott wasn't convinced the strips were necessary.

"If there's dirt on the track, don't run through the dirt, that's pretty simple," Elliott said. "As long as there's grass there, I'd say there's going to be dirt underneath."

Familiar name wins

The 18-year-old grandson of Hall of Fame team owner Joe Gibbs won his first start in the Xfinity Series. Racing on the road course at Daytona International Speedway, Ty Gibbs held off Austin Cindric, the defending series champion, in double overtime.



Sean M. Haffey/Getty Images

A NEW GOLF 'BAG' On a day that high winds forced suspension of play for four hours, Jordan Spieth attempts to nab a stray potato chip bag Saturday during the third round of the Genesis Invitational in Pacific Palisades, Calif.

Golf notebook

Wind wins the day at Riviera

Burns' lead cut from five to two

The Associated Press

PACIFIC PALISADES, Calif. — The wind stopped Sam Burns right when he was about to get started with a five-shot lead Saturday at the Genesis Invitational. Darkness stopped him right after consecutive bogeys narrowed his lead to two.

Thus ended a wild afternoon at Riviera, where the wind was raging so strong that it blew Keegan Bradley's putt off the green at No. 10 and nearly blew Max Homa's shot into the hole at the par-5 first.

A four-hour delay didn't make Riviera any easier.

Burns, the 24-year-old from Louisiana, went 31 consecutive holes without a bogey and kept Dustin Johnson, Jordan Spieth and everyone else at a distance. When the streak ended on No. 8, it was the start of three inevitable bogeys over six holes.

"It's a hard course with no wind," Burns said.

He was at 10-under par through 13 holes, two shots ahead of Matt Fitzpatrick, who had a most bizarre round by going 10 consecutive holes without a par — six birdies, four bogeys.

Johnson, Homa and Wyndham Clark were at 7 under, with Patrick Cantlay another shot behind. The

third round was set to be completed Sunday morning ahead of the final 18 holes.

The wind was blowing golf balls on the green, and then the PGA Tour said a piece of communications equipment toppled near the 14th tee and they brought everyone in.

Not much changed with the wind when they resumed. Everyone was dropping shots and hanging on for dear life.

The greens were so firm, the wind whipping so hard, that even from 99 yards away on the 13th hole Johnson, No. 1 in the world rankings, landed the ball some 50 feet short.

Only 12 other players were under par for their rounds, none better than 2 under.

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UPMC clinical research nurse tries to debunk vaccine myths

By Lacretria Wimbley
Pittsburgh Post-Gazette

Second in a series.

Clinical research nurse Lalia Roman joined UPMC's vaccination research team in May — during a peak in the coronavirus pandemic, which has left thousands dead and a nation shaken by grief — to do work she deems a “calling.”

Ms. Roman, 48, a wife and mother of three, said it's important to debunk vaccination myths based on her expertise in working directly with clinical trial patients who volunteered to take the Moderna COVID-19 vaccine, which essentially provides DNA instructions to the human body on how to build the proteins needed to fight the coronavirus, she said.

Researchers at UPMC and the University of Pittsburgh last summer began recruiting people to join



clinical vaccine trials, and Ms. Roman played a crucial, direct role in working with volunteer patients.

“A lot of people say they don't want to get the vaccine, but it's not giving you the virus, it's giving your body a way to fight the virus,” Ms. Roman said. “I've heard people say that this vaccine would turn you into a mutant, that doctors are trying to give it to you so they can control you, and that it's the mark of the beast.”

“I just tune out people's conspiracies. People say the virus isn't as bad as doctors say it is, and others say it's a money ploy and that they made it too fast.”

“But the science has always been there, as scientists had already been studying this prior to the pandemic. It's just that they didn't have the money to further it along. But you can go back and look at what people have been doing. So this is not necessarily new science, but it is new in the application of COVID-19.”

Vaccines typically require years of research and testing before reaching the clinical stage, but last year, scientists embarked on a race to produce safe and effective COVID-19 vaccines in record time, according to The New York Times.

Researchers are testing 70 vaccines in clinical trials on humans, and 20 have reached the final stages of testing. At least 89 pre-clinical vaccines are under active investigation in animals, the

SEE **ROMAN**, PAGE C-2



Emily Matthews/Post-Gazette

Clinical research nurse Lalia Roman is a member of UPMC's vaccination research team that is fighting to educate the public about the shots.

Pa. adds 2,818 COVID-19 cases

WVU announces U.K. virus variant infections

Pittsburgh Post-Gazette

Pennsylvania reported another 2,818 cases of COVID-19 and 90 additional deaths from the disease Saturday as West Virginia University announced three cases of the U.K. variant of the coronavirus.

In Allegheny County, where a mass vaccination clinic at PNC Park drew some 3,500 people, the Health Department reported new 285 cases. That marked at least the fifth consecutive day the county's tally was fewer than 300.

The county also recorded one additional death from COVID-19: a person in their 90s who died Dec. 17.

Meanwhile, WVU confirmed three cases of the U.K. coronavirus variant in the Morgantown, W.Va., area, two of them in WVU students. Federal health officials expect the variant — which was first identified in the United Kingdom and is considered especially contagious — will become the dominant strain in the U.S. within a few weeks, the university noted.

WVU is working with the Monongalia County Health Department, including on contact tracing, the university said in a statement, adding, “It is believed that the three individuals [infected] are related to one another and have not visited the WVU campus during their infectious period.”

The Allegheny County Health Department announced this month the discovery of a single case of the U.K. variant. As of Wednesday, that remained the only known case of the variant in the county, but that doesn't mean it's the only one, county Health Department Director Dr.



Alexandra Wimbley/Post-Gazette

Mike Jenca, of McCandless, receives his first dose of the COVID-19 vaccine from Highmark nurse Owen Yeasted, of Aspinwall, on Saturday at an Allegheny Health Network-run clinic at PNC Park on the North Shore.

Debra Bogen said.

She suspects that variant and perhaps others “have been and are present” in Allegheny County, she said.

“These variants spread more efficiently, so it's vital that we all wear a well-fitting mask that covers both the nose and mouth,” Dr. Bogen said Wednesday. “Also, we must remember to keep our distance from one another, to avoid large groups, to limit trips out of the house and [to] continue to wash our hands” to prevent virus transmission.

At the PNC Park clinic, Allegheny Health Network vaccinated

people 75 and older with high-risk conditions such as cancer, diabetes, heart disease and compromised immune systems. Those patients will return March 13 for their second doses.

“It's been a hell of a day. A good day,” Dr. Imran Qadeer, chief medical officer at Allegheny General Hospital, said with about three hours to go before the clinic was scheduled to end at 6 p.m. Saturday.

He had heard that just one person showed up without the required appointment, he said.

AHN's first vaccination clinic at the stadium was held Feb. 6.

Those patients will return Feb. 27 for their second shots.

“We are looking for even bigger sites, like at the convention center and other sites, where we could do over 10,000 [vaccinations] a day,” Dr. Qadeer said.

Also Saturday, the Pennsylvania Department of Health reported just more than 1.9 million doses of COVID-19 vaccine had been administered statewide as of Friday. Of those, 1.4 million were first doses. About 510,000 people in Pennsylvania had received two doses of vaccine to complete the

SEE **VIRUS**, PAGE C-2

PennDOT begins task of selling bridge tolls' importance

By Ed Blazina
Pittsburgh Post-Gazette

As it pushes to begin charging tolls to pay for replacing or upgrading nine major bridges across the state, the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation will spread a message that is part public education and part sales pitch.

Under its Pennsylvania Pathways program to find other revenue sources for projects, PennDOT announced Thursday that it will prepare federal paperwork to begin charging tolls of \$1 to \$2 to cross the bridges. Under a public-private partnership, a developer will replace the bridges and be responsible for their upkeep for up to 30 years, while the state will use the toll proceeds to pay for the work.

The proposed tolling sites in Western Pennsylvania are the Interstate 79 interchange at Bridgeville in Allegheny County and two sets of bridges on Interstate 80: Canoe Creek in Clarion County and North Fork in Jefferson County.

The department will deploy staff at virtual meetings beginning this week as it conducts federally required meetings about the proposed toll sites. The meetings also will serve as an opportunity for PennDOT to talk about its funding crisis, the importance of tolls to pay for the bridge work, and the potential reduction in state-funded local road work if the agency can't find other revenue sources.

“It's very important for us to educate people on what our needs are,” said Ken McClain, director of PennDOT's Alternative Funding Program, which was created last fall. “Transportation funding is very, very complicated. People think they understand it, but they really don't.”

In fact, Mr. McClain maintains, transportation right now may be a bargain. Motorists now spend an average of about \$380 a year on gasoline taxes, he said, about one-and-a-half to two times less than they spend for utilities such as natural gas and electricity.

Mr. McClain, Transportation Secretary Yassmin Gramian and other PennDOT officials who spoke at news conferences last week in each district where proposed tolling sites are located repeated the same facts and figures about the agency's financial troubles. The biggest factor is the state's reliance on federal and state gasoline taxes for 74% of its revenue.

Because the taxes haven't gone up in decades and electric and more fuel-efficient vehicles have reduced gas usage, the taxes are

SEE **TOLLS**, PAGE C-3

Activists looking to remake police oversight in Pittsburgh

By Adam Smeltz
Pittsburgh Post-Gazette

Activists pushing for an overhaul of police oversight in Pittsburgh drew at least several dozen people to a virtual gathering Saturday.

The Stop the Station coalition plans to seek a new, resident-elected body that would set the city's police budget, a function the mayor and City Council handle. The new panel's powers would extend to investigating and disciplining police officers, among other functions, according to a tentative blueprint supporters hammered out Saturday.

They plan to hone their public campaign and strategy over the coming weeks, they said, mulling

SEE **POLICE**, PAGE C-3

Census data delay could imperil transparency of crucial process

Redistricting plans under duress

By Marie Albiges
Spotlight PA

This article is part of a year-long reporting project focused on redistricting and gerrymandering in Pennsylvania. It is made possible by the support of Spotlight PA members and Votebeat, a project focused on election integrity and voting access.

HARRISBURG — The data needed to redraw Pennsylvania's political districts is more than five months behind schedule, raising concerns of those advocating for fair maps that state lawmakers could use the delay to fast-track the redistricting process and make it less transparent.

The U.S. Census Bureau announced earlier this month that it can't release the population figures needed for redistricting until Sept. 30, citing setbacks in collecting responses to questionnaires during the coronavirus pandemic.

That means state lawmakers

SPOTLIGHT PA

can't begin the once-in-a-decade drawing of Pennsylvania's legislative and congressional lines in earnest until September. The shortened timeline could also put the 2022 primary election at risk of being delayed.

Carol Kuniholm, chairwoman of Fair Districts PA, a nonprofit group advocating for redistricting reform, said she's concerned that lawmakers will use the delay as an excuse to limit transparency and public input, which has been minimal in previous decades.

In December 2011, Republican lawmakers revealed and passed a new congressional map in less than two weeks. That map was later overturned by the state Supreme Court, which called it a partisan gerrymander that diluted Democrats' votes “in order to give the party in power a lasting electoral advantage.”

Pennsylvania is expected to lose a congressional seat this year — raising the stakes even higher — and Republicans who control how that map is drawn must get Democratic Gov. Tom Wolf's approval. The legislative political lines, meanwhile, can determine which party controls the General Assembly and dictates policymaking decisions for the next decade.

Ms. Kuniholm's group wants lawmakers to pass a bill requiring more public hearings and citizen involvement in the process.

“There's no reason why they can't be collecting public comments even before the data comes out, then hold regional mapping events over Zoom,” she said, adding that once the data is released, lawmakers should hold regional meetings to allow the public to weigh in on the proposed maps.

“That's all completely doable

SEE **DISTRICTS**, PAGE C-3

Doctors warn vaccine effect could confuse mammogram results

By Anya Sostek
Pittsburgh Post-Gazette

Over the past few weeks, radiologists at UPMC realized that several dozen patients flagged for abnormal mammograms because of swollen underarm lymph nodes had something in common: They had recently received the COVID-19 vaccine.

Swelling in underarm lymph nodes is a known side effect of the vaccine, occurring in about 10% of cases, said Dr. Margarita Zuley, chief of the division of breast imaging at UPMC. The concern, she said, is that swollen lymph nodes can also be a symptom of breast cancer. If seen on a mammogram, doctors will call the patient back for a follow-up appointment for further evaluation.

"We don't want patients to be alarmed by that," said Dr. Zuley. "We want patients to be aware that this can happen."

To avoid unnecessary appointments and worry, UPMC is recommending that women should consider getting mammograms before receiving their COVID-19 vaccines, or to wait until four weeks after their second dose. Women who prefer to get a mammogram closer to their vaccine may do so, but doctors would like them to be aware of the possible complications.

"To us, this is about shared decision-making with the patients," Dr. Zuley said. "We don't want people to be afraid."

That policy is in line with recommendations released last month by the Society for Breast Imaging, which also recommends that doctors now ask up front whether patients have recently received a COVID-19 vaccine.

Most patients should not be delaying mammograms because of the vaccine, said Dr. Zuley, but rather scheduling mammograms now, prior to getting the vaccine, so that they don't have to deal with the possible

conflict as the vaccine becomes more widely available. UPMC, which does about 90,000 mammograms a year in its Magee network in Allegheny and Butler counties, is working to open additional appointments in the event of increased demand.

Women who are receiving diagnostic mammograms because there is a sign of a possible problem, such as a lump, should not delay those mammograms, even if they are scheduled to be vaccinated against COVID-19.

Because the COVID-19 vaccine is still in such short supply, eligible patients should get the vaccine as soon as they can, Dr. Zuley said, and they should not delay their shot because of a mammogram.

Lymph nodes swell as the body prepares an immune response, Dr. Zuley said, and swollen lymph nodes can occur in reaction to an injury, such as a cut; due to a virus, such as the common cold; or because of an immune response to the COVID-19 vaccine. Swollen lymph nodes under the arm can also be a sign of breast cancer, and that's why doctors will follow up even if the swelling is likely a result of the vaccine.

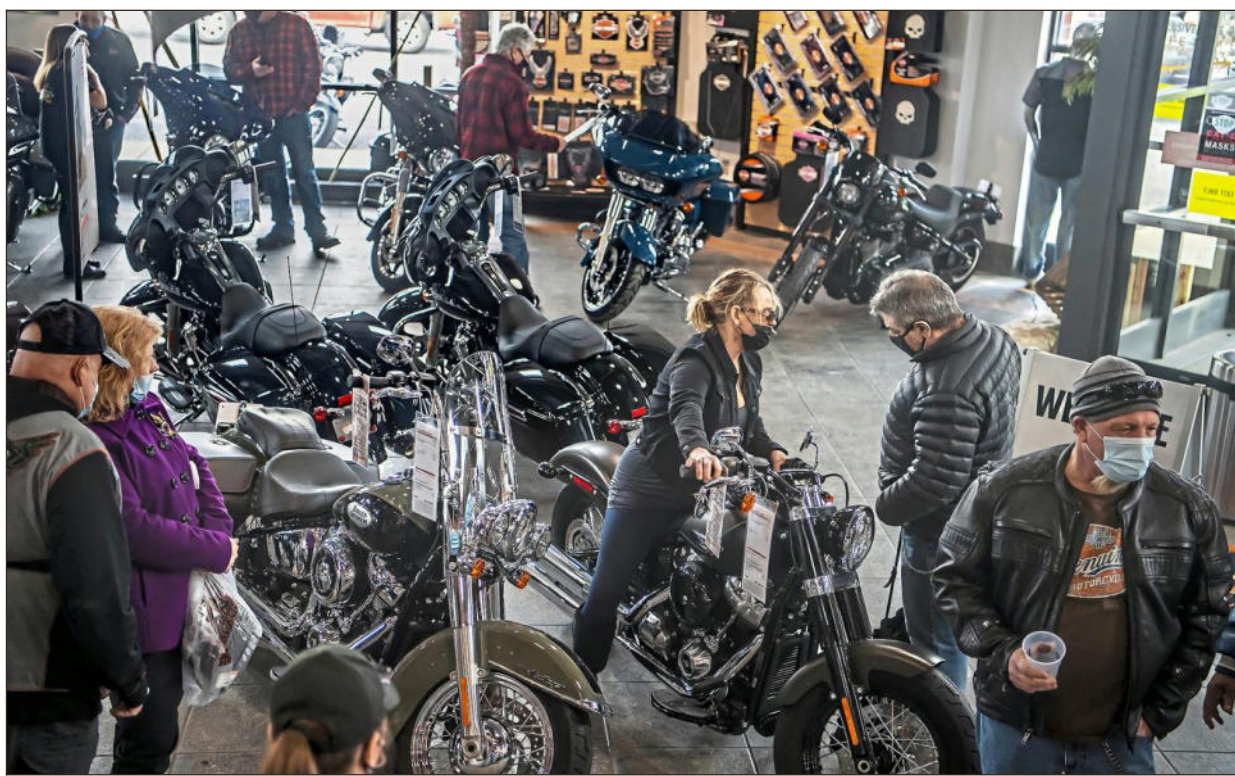
Swollen lymph nodes are more common after the Moderna vaccine, said Dr. Zuley, and side effects are more common after the second shot than the first. Swollen lymph nodes are not a common side effect of the flu vaccine.

Screening mammograms are recommended annually for women older than 40, and patients can schedule them eight to nine months after their last mammogram.

"Screening mammograms are very important, especially if the patient missed their mammogram last year, which a lot of patients did," Dr. Zuley said. "Get in now, get your mammogram, get it over with."

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FINDING A NEW RIDE



Alexandra Wimley/Post-Gazette

Lisa "Kat" Szalinski, of Etna, center, tries out a motorcycle during Steel City Harley-Davidson's 16th annual Daytona Beach Party at the Harley-Davidson store in Washington, Pa., on Saturday.

Group recognizes four local Black leaders

By Patricia Sabatini
Pittsburgh Post-Gazette

From an early age, Jesse J. McLean Jr. had a calling.

"From the time I was a child of 10, I knew my gift was working with young people... moving young folks from a place of despair to happiness," Mr. McLean said Saturday, accepting a Black History Makers Award from the Talk Minority Action Group in Pittsburgh.

Mr. McLean — the Western Pennsylvania executive director at Pressley Ridge, a Pittsburgh-based social services organization — was recognized for more than 30 years of service in the nonprofit sector in

Pittsburgh, including developing a program that prepares middle school-age children for college.

"If something is going on in the county, Jesse is there ... always thinking about uplifting and positivity in the Black community," state Rep. Ed Gainey, D-Lincoln-Lemington, said while presenting the award during a virtual Zoom event.

The awards, given out annually as part of Black History Month, recognize members of the Black community throughout Pennsylvania.

The award winners this year included another Pittsburgh resident, Randall Taylor. The longtime activist is a former member of

the Pittsburgh Board of Public Education and a founder of the Penn Plaza Support and Action Coalition, a support group for the hundreds of residents evicted from the Penn Plaza apartments in East Liberty.

Awards also went to Philadelphia resident Lisa Rhodes, chair of the Pennsylvania Democratic State Community Black caucus, and Harrisburg's Homer C. Floyd, executive director of the Pennsylvania Human Relations Commission from 1970 to 2011.

"When I was offered the job in Pennsylvania, that was like a job of a lifetime for me," said Mr. Floyd, who was born in the South and

grew up in Massillon, Ohio. "I was sick and tired of hearing, 'We don't rent to colored. ... You don't eat in our restaurant, you can do takeout. ... We don't loan money to those people.'"

Being head of the human relations commission "meant that all that I was hearing, I had the authority under the statute to try to correct. We could subpoena records and bring people in. We could correct the problem if we could identify it and get the evidence."

"We think we made a difference in Pennsylvania," he said.

Patricia Sabatini: PSabatini@post-gazette.com

UPMC nurse strives to debunk vaccine myths

ROMAN, FROM C-1

Times reported.

The world's two leading vaccines, manufactured by Pfizer and Moderna, have been approved in several countries and are available for emergency use in the U.S., the U.K., the European Union and other countries. Both have above a 90% efficacy rate, according to experts.

The racial makeup of people who have been vaccinated at this point has not been tracked well in Pennsylvania. Despite minimal data gathered by UPMC and others, numbers released by the state nevertheless show what could be troubling racial disparities in Pennsylvania's vaccination effort.

The Black population in particular has been hit hard, with African Americans two to three times more likely to die from the disease, national figures show. Transportation to clinics and access to the internet are often roadblocks.

It is because of these facts that Ms. Roman said she

had found purpose in educating people about vaccinations. The importance of having additional Black medical professionals is crucial to ensure minority patients feel more comfortable asking questions and seeking help.

"When I began on the vaccination research team, I wanted to be able to do something for COVID-19 victims," Ms. Roman said. "Research really hasn't had a good look for Black people. I figured that me being Black might make it more acceptable."

"When I used to do floor nursing, people would ask me questions because I was more relatable to them. And it's been the same thing with research. Doctors would come in and read consent forms, and patients wouldn't say much. Then I come in, and there are a thousand questions."

Ms. Roman said she took a first dose of the Moderna vaccine on Christmas Eve, then the second, final dose 28 days later.

"I understand people's hesitation, because I was very nervous," she said. "I had to pray and consult all of my circles and talk to my husband and children, then I went back and read more literature. It was not an easy decision, and even after I got it, I only told my close family members at first."

"I knew it was so important to let people know that I didn't grow a tail after taking it. I am very lucky, because I only had a sore arm, and it was worse with the second dose. Because I got vaccinated, my mother got vaccinated. She got the Pfizer vaccine, and she only got a sore arm."

Ms. Roman said it's true that most people who contract COVID-19 will recover, but there sometimes is a price to pay in that recovery. Some people have lingering side effects, including fatigue, a racing heart and depression, while others never regain their sense of smell, Ms. Roman said.

"To me, that makes the

vaccine worth it," she said. "Major athletes who take great care of themselves are still dying from this disease, but a lot of people don't take that seriously, but they really should. I know it's scary, because this feels like a new technology in terms of introducing this to our bodies. But I don't want to bring this virus home to my husband or my children."

"Children are dying. This is not a game. I've heard a lot of people make jokes about it, and maybe that's a coping mechanism. But people should really look past the conspiracy theories. I would encourage people to look at this with open eyes and to talk to as many people about it as possible."

"Talk to your physicians and gather as much info as you can, and when you've done all of that, then make a decision."

Laetitia Wimbley: lwimbley@post-gazette.com, 412-263-1510 or Twitter @Wimbleyjourn.

Pa. adds 2,818 new cases

VIRUS, FROM C-1

inoculation process.

The figures do not include vaccinations administered in Philadelphia — which operates as its own jurisdiction — or those administered in federal facilities or through CVS and Walgreens as part of a Federal Pharmacy Partnership. Roughly 4 million Pennsylvanians are eligible for COVID-19 shots in the vaccination campaign's ongoing first phase.

Patients hospitalized with COVID-19 numbered 2,061 statewide Saturday, down from 2,548 a week earlier, according to state data. The statewide positivity rate, or the proportion of COVID-19 tests that come back positive, registered at 6.5% for the seven days that ended Thursday, down from 8% for

the prior seven days.

Among the newly reported COVID-19 cases Saturday in Allegheny County, 206 are confirmed and 79 are probable. Those newly reported as infected range in age from 11 months to 92 years, with a median age of 38, according to the county. Three of the positive tests were more than a week old.

Statewide, Pennsylvania's COVID-19 death toll reached 23,750 since the pandemic reached the state last March; Allegheny County has logged 1,629 fatalities. Total known cases in the state reached 911,591; known cases in the county stood at 74,602, according to public health reports.

Post-Gazette staff writers Patricia Sabatini and Adam Smeltz contributed.

Traffic watch

Highlights from major construction projects around Pittsburgh and surrounding areas this week

1. Boundary Street/Pittsburgh: Closed until April 4 between Joncaire Street and South Neville Street in Oakland for utility work.

2. Henderson Street/North Side: Alternating traffic during wall construction. Work will last about three months. Fountain Street will be closed between Shockoe Way and Henderson. Henderson restricted to a narrow lane east of Fountain.

3. Kittanning Street/Etna: Closed to through traffic between Snyder Street and Greismere Street through March 5. Local traffic will be permitted.

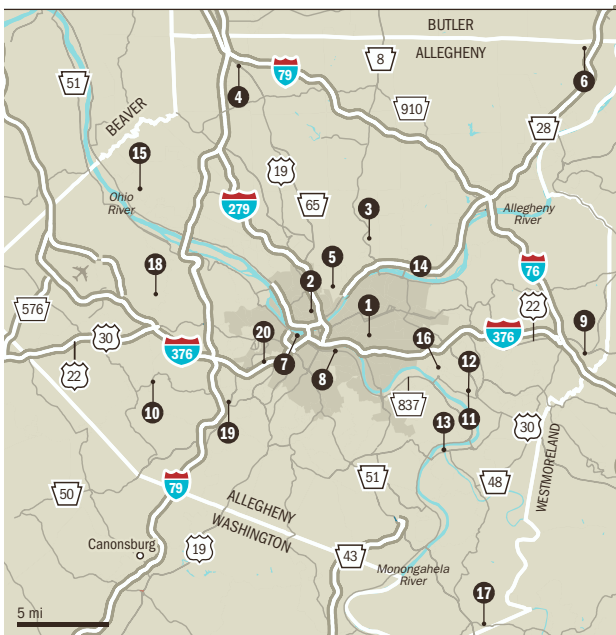
4. Perry Highway/Marshall: Daily single-lane closures in both directions between Thorn Hill Road and Warrendale Bayne Road, 6 a.m.-5 p.m., through fall 2022. The Pennsylvania Turnpike Commission is building a new bridge pier where the turnpike crosses over Perry Highway.

5. Mount Troy Road/Reserve: Closed between Fomof Lane and Lonsdale Street until March.

6. Saxonburg Road/Fawn, Harrison: Closed indefinitely in both directions between Route 908 and Freeport Road. Local traffic permitted.

7. West Carson Street/Pittsburgh: Single-lane restrictions between the Smithfield Street Bridge and the West End Circle 8 a.m.-4 p.m. daily through late February. Single-lane restrictions 7 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Thursday between Earl Street and Telford Street for Duquesne Light cable installation work.

8. East Carson Street/Pittsburgh: Single-lane restrictions between Arlington Avenue and 22nd Street weekdays 7 a.m.-5:30 p.m. through late August. Parking and sidewalk restrictions will continue between Fifth Street and 22nd Street around the clock.



Source: Esri

Post-Gazette

9. Northern Pike/Monroeville: Closed to traffic between Abers Creek Road and Valerie Circle. Detours posted.

10. Noblestown Road/

Oakdale Borough: Closed between Hill Road and Gregg Station Road until further notice. Detour posted.

11. Dooker's Hollow Bridge/

North Braddock/East Pittsburgh: Closed until December for replacement.

12. O'Connell Boulevard/North Braddock: Closed beneath the Dooker's Hollow Bridge for continuing work on the bridge.

13. Jerome Street Bridge/McKeesport: Single lane in each direction between Romine Avenue and Gibson Way through late March.

14. Route 28/Pittsburgh, Aspinwall: Traffic stoppage in both directions between 8 a.m. and 8:30 a.m. Sunday between the 31st Street and 40th Street bridges for fiber optic cable crossing work. Single-lane restrictions northbound, 8 p.m.-5 a.m. weeknights through early April, between the Highland Park Bridge interchange and Delafield Avenue. Lane restrictions on southbound Route 28 will occur as needed.

15. Way Hollow Road/Edgeworth, Sewickley Heights: Closed indefinitely between Woodland and Backbone roads.

16. Sixth Avenue/Rankin:

Closed between Kenmawr Avenue and Duquesne Way through late summer.

17. Route 136/Elizabeth: Long-term closure between Route 51 in Forward and Long Hollow Road.

18. Various locations/Moon: Single-lane alternating traffic 7 a.m.-5 p.m. weekdays for power line work in the following locations: Beaver Grade Road between Olde Manor Lane and Montour Run Road; Hassam Road between Maple Street Extension and Philomena Drive; Coraopolis Heights Road between Fitzrandolph Road and Maple Street Extension. Work won't occur simultaneously on all three roadways.

19. Collier Avenue/Heidelberg: Single-lane alternating traffic at the intersection of West Railroad Street, 7 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday for pipe-liner installation.

20. Mansfield Avenue/Green Tree: Single-lane alternating traffic between Holiday Drive and Trumbull Drive from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. weekdays through late June for sidewalk and curb work.

Census data delay could imperil Pa.'s redistricting plans

DISTRICTS, FROM C-1

in the time frame they have if they plan ahead and they commit to doing a transparent public process," she said.

As a general rule, the maps must be completed before candidates can start filing to run in the 2022 primary, as they'll need to know whether they live within the new district's boundaries and gather ballot petition signatures from people who live in that district.

Pennsylvania's primary filing deadline is March 9, 2022, which gives lawmakers only six months—compared to the year they had last decade—to create and approve the maps.

Ben Williams, an elections and redistricting policy specialist at the National Conference of State Legislatures, wrote that states can push candidate filing deadlines back to give lawmakers more time to complete maps, or ask courts to push back any legislative or constitutional deadlines associated with redistricting.

Primary election dates could also be changed, Mr. Williams wrote. Last year, Mr. Wolf delayed Pennsylvania's primary election by 35 days, citing the dangers of the coronavirus pandemic. Senate President Pro Tempore Jake Corman, R-Centre, told The Associated Press recently that lawmakers may have to consider postponing the May 17, 2022, primary "if the data comes in so late."

Ms. Kuniholm said she thinks lawmakers can get the maps drawn without having to delay primaries or hold elections under the old maps—something her organization would argue against.

"If they have the data by the end of September, good maps can be drawn quickly and be available for public feedback," she said. "Drawing a map to capture all the predicted data and really gerrymander it precisely can be more time-consuming."

Khalif Ali, executive director of Common Cause Pennsylvania, said he would not accept delaying the primary if it meant giving the public more time to provide input.

"Any changes of the schedule should not come at the expense of opportunities for the public to

submit testimony" or respond to the proposed maps, he said.

Pennsylvania faced a similar dilemma in 2012, when the state Supreme Court invalidated the legislative map drawn by a commission of the General Assembly's top lawmakers.

As a result, Republicans asked the court to delay the April 24 primary. Instead, elections that year were held based on the previous decade's maps while the commission worked on a new one, which wasn't approved until May 2013.

Senate Minority Leader Jay Costa, D-Forest Hills, one of four legislative caucus leaders who make up the Legislative Reapportionment Commission, said the process will likely be "compressed" in November, December and January.

"It will be a tight timeline given the constraints we have right now," he said earlier this month during a virtual meeting with the National Democratic Redistricting Committee. "It makes our work a little harder, but that's OK by me."

He said his biggest concern was ensuring the population count was accurate, even if that means the data is delayed.

"We also have to be cognizant of the fact that we want to give people an opportunity to witness the process that we participate in as reapportionment commission members, an opportunity to have input into what the maps look like, an opportunity to understand what we're trying to achieve as we put those maps out there for consideration and an opportunity for the matters to go to court if necessary," he said.

Senate Majority Leader Kim Ward, R-Hempfield, said her caucus would "explore all options to ensure we meet our constitutional duties in this process."

The House and Senate State Government committees have scheduled a public hearing for Wednesday on what the data delay means for Pennsylvania.

Spotlight PA is an independent, nonpartisan newsroom powered by The Philadelphia Inquirer in partnership with PennLive/The Patriot-News, TribLIVE/Pittsburgh Tribune-Review, and WITF Public Media.



Peter Diana/Post-Gazette

Traffic on Route 50 drives under the Interstate 79 bridge in Bridgeville. The span is one of nine PennDOT plans to start tolling, but now the agency must sell the public on the idea.

PennDOT begins task of selling bridge tolls' value

TOLLS, FROM C-1

generating less money now than they used to. As a result, the state estimates it has transportation needs of about \$15 billion a year and has only about \$6.9 billion available.

"The gap gets worse every year," Mr. McClain said. "We are seeing reduced revenues at the gas pump. But we have an enormous responsibility to the traveling public."

Pennsylvania takes care of 41,000 miles of roads, fifth highest in the country and more than New Jersey, New York and the New England states combined. It's also responsible for the third-highest number of bridges: 25,400. More than half of the bridges at least 50 years old, and 2,500 are in poor condition, second highest in the country.

The state has made progress on bridges, reducing the number in poor condition from about 6,000 in 2008. One strategy involved a similar public-private partnership in which one construction group replaced more than 500 small bridges and will maintain them for 30 years.

But there are other factors that hurt the agency's funding.

Because it neglected work on the interstates for many years while it waited for federal funds that never came, the state in 2019 decided it had to shift \$3.15 billion to interstate work instead of local upgrades through 2028. Without interstate improvements, PennDOT

officials were concerned that the Federal Highway Administration would take away the state's other federal transportation funding.

Additionally, the Pennsylvania Turnpike's requirement to pay \$450 million a year mostly for public transit drops to \$50 million in mid-2022, and the Legislature hasn't determined how it will replace that money.

And due to reduced driving during the pandemic, the department expects to lose \$500 million to \$600 million in gasoline tax revenue for the fiscal year ending June 30. Federal stimulus funds are expected to replace just over \$400 million of that.

As result, Mr. McClain's job is to identify other revenue sources, and that begins with tolling bridges. If tolling is approved at all nine sites, the funds will pay for \$1.6 billion to \$2.2 billion worth of work and allow the agency to use gas tax money for other projects.

With an additional \$2.2 billion, the department could repave 1,900 miles of roads or install 6,600 miles of guardrails. The department claims every \$1.5 billion spent on roadwork generates 15,656 jobs and \$3.28 billion in economic output.

PennDOT refers to tolls as "user fees" that directly charge those who benefit from using the bridges. The agency purposely chose projects throughout the state rather than concentrating them in one area so motorists in one region don't face a larger

burden.

If tolls pay off the construction and maintenance costs before the 30-year agreement ends, Mr. McClain said, the department is committed to using the additional money for other improvements in the same PennDOT district.

Tolling is part of a growing trend, Mr. McClain said. Across the country, 195 roads, 137 bridges and 15 tunnels generate about \$22 billion annually through tolls.

As part of the review process, the agency is required to study the potential impact of motorists trying to avoid toll points by using local roads. If it finds that would create significant congestion, it will make improvements to the local roads or drop the idea of tolling.

Mr. McClain said this push to charge user fees on the interstates is different than former Gov. Ed Rendell's effort in 2008 to toll I-80. That would have been part of an experimental program that no longer exists, he said, but the agency now allows user fees if a project meets federal criteria.

Mr. McClain and others will be responsible for making sure the tolling projects meet federal and public approval.

"We cannot afford to let these major bridges fail," he said. "They are of paramount importance to us and we can't afford to have them unavailable."

Ed Blazina: eblazina@post-gazette.com, 412-263-1470 or on Twitter @EdBlazina.

Activists push for oversight overhaul

POLICE, FROM C-1

ideas for council legislation, a ballot referendum and other mechanisms that could execute the concept.

"We're dealing with the system; we're not dealing just with individuals," said Randall Taylor, an activist and former Pittsburgh school board member.

Mayor Bill Peduto and police union leadership have outsized influence over policing, which should be "subject to the will of the people," Mr. Taylor argued in the roughly three-hour gathering Stop the Station hosted Saturday.

At one point, it seemed more than 100 people were in attendance. Among them, Jerry Dickinson, a faculty member at the University of Pittsburgh School of Law, said the endeavor could set a precedent for other cities to follow. Several Pitt law students are assisting, he said.

Under an approach sketched out Saturday, the new governance body would replace—and have more expansive influence than—the current Citizen Police Review Board. Pittsburghers voted in November to strengthen the role and powers of that board, which investigates citizen complaints about police conduct.

Mr. Peduto has "repeatedly said he supports reimagining policing," Peduto spokesman Timothy McNulty said in a statement Saturday afternoon.

Mr. Peduto "engaged the independent and experienced panel of stakeholders in the Community Task Force on Police Reform to help the city do so," Mr. McNulty said, referring to a 15-member panel convened by the mayor in June. "Many of their recommendations, from working on criminal justice diversion programs to giving police recruits cutting-edge training on working with diverse communities, are already being implemented."

The Fraternal Order of Police Fort Pitt Lodge No. 1 could not be reached immediately on Saturday.

Stop the Station, which opposes plans to relocate the Zone 5 police station from Highland Park to East Liberty, has called for the city to defund its police by at least 50% and put the money into affordable housing and social services. Its next steps include another conference with supporters and partners in about a month, organizer Jalina McClarin said.

GEORGE H. MARTIN | Feb. 1, 1928 - Feb. 8, 2021

The oldest bartender in the city?

By Janice Crompton
Pittsburgh Post-Gazette

George H. Martin got his "15 minutes of fame," as promised by Andy Warhol. He just had to wait a while.

No doubt the oldest bartender in the city, Mr. Martin instantly became famous when he turned 90 years old in 2018, thanks to his friends and customers at the Allegheny Elks Lodge No. 339 on Cedar Avenue on the North Side.

"We turned him into a celebrity at 90," said Mark Fatla, executive director of the Northside Leadership Conference and a member of the lodge. "We were chatting one day and he told me that he'd be working on his 90th birthday, so we came up with a promotion for him to serve 90 drinks on his birthday."

Mr. Martin continued the tradition for the next two birthdays at the lodge, where he had tended bar since the 1960s. His birthday celebrations turned into major events and drew hundreds of well-wishers every year.

The longtime lodge officer—a member for 70 years—quietly, and unsurprisingly,

donated all of the proceeds raised at the events.

Mr. Martin, of Bellevue, died Feb. 8, after suffering injuries in a fall last month. He'd turned 93 just a week earlier.

An entertainer from a young age, he grew up on the North Side, performing in the Allegheny High School theater and playing French horn in the band.

After high school, he enlisted in the military, where he switched to trumpet as a member of the 71st Army Ground Forces Band.

He attended Carnegie Tech after his service and became an independent interior designer.

The snappiest of dressers on any occasion, Mr. Martin worked in the menswear department at Kaufmann's Downtown and as a window dresser for other stores.

"He was always dressed to the nines," said Keith Olash, trustee and past exalted ruler at the Elks lodge—a role Mr. Martin served in for seven terms. "Even behind the bar, he would always wear a tie and a special vest that someone made for him. He always wanted to look good."

"He was a first-class

character," Mr. Fatla agreed. "He was always nattily dressed—he always believed in dressing well. He was of that old school."

During after-work drinks at the William Penn Tap Room in the 1980s, Mr. Martin and several of his Kaufmann's co-workers decided they would open a bar.

Over the years, he owned three, in Ross, Millvale and the North Side before devoting his retirement years to working the Friday and Saturday night shifts behind the Elks' bar.

Though he held many official titles at the Elks over the years, it was the four decades he spent as entertainment chairman, booking concerts and shows, that he was most proud of, he told the Pittsburgh Post-Gazette in 2018.

"All I want to do is make them happy," he said in a February 2018 story. "I want to see a smile on their face."

"He was definitely a showman," Mr. Olash said. "He loved to be onstage. If we were doing something, he always either emceed or coordinated it and he led everyone in song."

His moving rendition of "God Bless America" was

always sung at club meetings and his birthday parties.

"He sang it at every meeting and he would lead us all in one verse at the lodge meetings," Mr. Olash said.

"He always sang it in the key of G, for George," Mr. Fatla recalled.

Mr. Martin was an unforgettable character, said Sarah Suiter, current exalted ruler at the lodge.

"He was known as 'Mr. Entertainment,' organizing Mother's Day, Flag Day, and championing the collection for Christmas charities for the lodge," she said. "George was the epitome of what it means to be an Elk. He exemplified charity, justice, brotherly love, and fidelity. He had held nearly every office possible in the lodge, including being the beloved chaplain until his death. George will be deeply missed."

"He loved the Elks—that was his life," said Mr. Martin's daughter Cynthia Martin, of West View.

His 90th birthday event and subsequent birthday parties infused new life into the community and reinvigorated Mr. Martin in his later years, Mr. Fatla said.



Antonella Crescimbeni/Post-Gazette

George H. Martin in January 2018.

"We packed the place—the county executive would come and read a proclamation with the mayor and council members," he said. "I think it took him like 45 minutes to serve 90 drinks the first year. We had bartenders assisting him because people would be three-deep at the bar."

"Of course, the pandemic robbed us of his 93rd birthday party, which was going to be on Feb. 5—we planned to host a virtual birthday party with him livestreaming behind the bar with local celebrities stopping in for a drink, but then George fell and broke his hip a couple of weeks before," said Mr. Fatla, who hopes to continue the tradition in Mr. Martin's honor in coming years.

"He liked being around people, and he really, really missed his wife Mary Lou,

who died in 2017, so the birthday things really gave him a milestone each year to shoot for," Mr. Fatla said.

Mr. Martin looked back fondly on what he called "a good life," in the 2018 PG story.

"I've had a beautiful time of it," he said. "I've enjoyed every minute of it. So far."

Along with his daughter, Mr. Martin is survived by a son, William J. Martin, of Euston, Del.; four grandchildren and three great-grandchildren.

A memorial service is planned for sometime in the future.

Contributions can be made in George Martin's name to the Elks Lodge 339, 400 Cedar Ave., Pittsburgh, PA 15212.

Janice Crompton: jcrompton@post-gazette.com.

LATEST DEATHS

The Post-Gazette's comprehensive report of recent deaths includes three types of obituaries. News obituaries, prepared by our staff, are published at the discretion of our editors. Classified obituaries are paid death notices prepared by funeral home directors. To place a classified obituary, call 412-263-1371. To suggest a news obituary, call 412-263-1601. Funeral home directors may also call 412-263-1601 from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. to note a death for which there is no classified obituary. Those names will be listed under other deaths.

CLASSIFIED OBITUARIES

ACKERMAN, William R., Penn Hills, formerly Greenfield
AUDLEY, Melvin R., Pittsburgh
BEILE, Lawrence P. Jr., Peters, formerly Mt. Lebanon
BENEDEK, Thomas G., Verona, formerly Squirrel Hill
BLOUGH, Leland S., McCandless
BOOTH, Doris Virginia, Peters
BORLAND, Jean H.
BOSCO, James, Kalamazoo, Mich., formerly North Side
BREHM, Robert T., Wilkins
BRUNWASSER, Maxine Sla-

vonsky
BUGEL, Thomas Edward, Wexford
CARROLL, Mary Filippelli
CARTER, Virginia R. Zoeller, Pittsburgh
CLANAGAN, Richard Alvin, East Pittsburgh
CLARKE, Dorothea P. "Dottie," Penn Hills
COCHRAN, Anne Marie, West Mifflin, formerly Hazelwood
COLEMAN, Greta Gold
DAMITS, Jean Kolb, Crafton
DAVIS, Burl E., formerly Plum
DeCENZO, John, Pitcairn
DREON, Peter A., Bridgeville
DUNBAR, Edwin T., Derry Borough
EISENSTAT, Libby
EVANS, Edith H. "Judy," North Hills, formerly Garfield and Shadyside
FAILLA, Rose, Bethel Park
FAUST, Charles James "Charlie," Stow, Ohio
FEOLA, Albert J., Plum
FISCHER, Louis John, Bridgeville
FISHER, Jewel M.
FROETSCHEL, Nelva Louise Cordial, Bethel Park
GEIS, Nancy Jean
GERDE, Walter Fox Jr., Scott
GODINO, Virginia A., Ross

GREEN, David C.
GROSS, Evelyn Rita Panucci, Franklin Park
HANEY, Jane Twigger, State College, Centre County, formerly Brentwood and Pleasant Hills
HAYES, Edward T. "Ed"
HEINZ, Howard Kurt, Berkeley, Calif., formerly Pittsburgh
HEISER, Jean T. Salupek
HERBST, Antoinette Veltre "Tony," Wilkins, formerly Swissvale
HERSHEY, Jeanine H., Folsom, La., formerly Pittsburgh
HOAK, William Paul "Bill," Brooksville, Fla.
HOLST, Jeffrey
HUNTER, Evelyn K., Oakmont
JOHNSON, Louis N. "Big Lou," Rankin
JONES, Christina D. "Tina," Scott, formerly Whitehall
JONES, Nancy Carol Dayton, Dunbar, formerly Mather
KELLAR, Michael G., Myrtle Beach, S.C., formerly Wintersville, Ohio
KELSON, Richard B., New York
KIRK, Eva, Brentwood
KLECHA, John A., Shaler
KRAFT, Holly Jean, Nokomis, Fla., formerly Chantilly, Va.

KRUGLAK, Geraldine K. "Gerri," Penn Hills
LAWRENCE, Penelope C. "Penny," Venice, Fla., formerly Pittsburgh and Grove City
LAZEAR, Robert Alan
MANCUSO, Richard Francis Jr. "Rick," Pittsburgh
MASTANDREA, Theresa Badolato "Terri," Penn Hills
MATISZ, Steven M. "Stevie," Sharpsburg, formerly Avalon
MATONE, Michael John, formerly Bethel Park and Baldwin Borough
MENDLOWITZ, Allen, Monroeville, formerly Wilkins
MIGNOGNA, Lena Frances Cecchine, formerly Pitcairn
MINCIN, Marlene Felicia, Bainbridge Island, Wash., formerly McMurray
NORMAN, Robert Toll
PACKARD, Nicholas Tyner, Naples, Fla., formerly Ben Avon
PAUTLER, Stanislav J., Upper St. Clair
PELINO, Mary Bossola
PRENN, Charles G., Franklin Park
PRODETE, Frederick L., Penn Hills, formerly Lawrenceville
RAIDERS, Beverly P., Castle Shannon
REID, Douglas Wainwright,

Naples, Fla.
RHULE, Carl W., McCandless
ROBINSON, Arthur, Cape Canaveral, Fla., formerly Pittsburgh
RODGERS, Brayton C., formerly Oil City
SANCHEZ, Joseph R. Sr., Allison Park
SCHACTER, James D.
SCHINHOFEN, Raymond J.
SEILER, Kenneth W.
SEVER, Elizabeth Ann, Gibsonsia
SHAFFER, Katherine E., South Park
SHYMOWSKY, Rosemary, McKees Rocks
SOYKE, Nancy J., Munhall
SRINIVASAGAM, Nancy Bailey
STEPANIAN-BARBER, Laurie A.
STEVENS, June A. McCann
STOVER, John Charles "Chuck," Plum
SZAFRANSKI, Stanley J. Sr. "Chirp," Shaler
WAY, Stephanie "Stella"
WECKERLE, John George
WILLS, Walter Daniel Jr., Upper St. Clair
YARUSSI, Stella
ZEISENHEIM, Cydney Ann, Laureldale, Berks County
ZOLNAR, Edward J., Penn Hills
ZORN, Richard Raymond "Dick"

EAST

SWAT called to Lincoln-Lemington apartment

A dispute between neighbors early Saturday in Lincoln-Lemington led to a response from the Pittsburgh SWAT team, the city Department of Public Safety said.

Police responded to the 1300 block of Paulson Street around 3:50 a.m. A resident said a neighbor had pulled a gun on him, according to the department.

When police approached the neighbor, he turned combative and barricaded himself in an apartment, the department said. SWAT soon joined the response.

After 90 minutes, the barricaded resident left the apartment and was taken into custody following the encouragement of negotiators, the department said. The resident's name was not released.

WILLIAM R. ACKERMAN



William (Bill) Robert Ackerman, died February 17, 2021, with his family by his side. He was born on June 27, 1948, in Greenfield, PA and spent the last 40 years in Penn Hills, PA. He is the son of the late William Henry Ackerman and Pauline (Druza) Ackerman. He was preceded in death by his sister, Kathy (Ackerman) Klaus. He was the loving father of Melissa J. (Ackerman) Stein and William

P. Ackerman and father-in-law to Joshua R. Stein and Jessica Ackerman. He was a devoted grandfather of four grandchildren, Jackson Stein, Elle Stein, Elijah Stein and Beckham Ackerman. Bill was an accomplished contractor for over 40 years. He loved his craft and was incredibly proud of his trade. He used his skills to make many positive contributions to the lives of others and his local community. He was a veteran of the US Army and served multiple terms as the Commander of the American Legion Post #980 in Plum Boro, PA. He was a charismatic leader, always had a great story to tell, and he had an incredible sense of humor. Bill was a teacher and enjoyed showing or teaching his friends and family how to do things. If you knew him, you knew that he was a generous man, always giving to others and putting their needs before his own. His values were resolute, and he always believed in doing the right thing and keeping his word. His proudest achievements in life were his children and grandchildren. He loved his family fiercely and devoted most of his free time to being with them. He loved fishing, being outdoors and visiting his camp. You could always find Bill on his boat, hoping to snag a fish early in the morning. He also loved cooking, enjoying good food, and making new recipes with his children. A small service for immediate family will be held on Sunday, February 21st, 2021. Please view and sign the family's online guestbook at www.PittsburghCremation.com. In lieu of flowers, please send a donation to the American Heart Association or Veterans Place - Washington Boulevard <https://www.veteransplaceusa.org/donate/>. Please mail correspondence to 116 N. Heide Lane, McMurray, PA 15317. A public memorial service and celebration of Bill's life will be scheduled after the COVID 19 pandemic is over. Please email billackerman2021@gmail.com with your name, email, and address so we can include you on this list.



Send condolences post-gazette.com/gb

LAWRENCE P. BEILE, JR.



Age 79, on February 14, 2021, of Peters Township, formerly Mt. Lebanon, at home with his family, after a prolonged illness which he bore with patience and grace. Much loved husband for 55 years of Judith Bonacuse Beile; dearest dad of Megan Beile, Josie (Will) Dayton, and Erin (Scott) Baumgarten; loving grampa of Thomas (Erika) Regan, Alexa Connors, Shane Bowman and Julia and Brett Czarniak. Preceded in

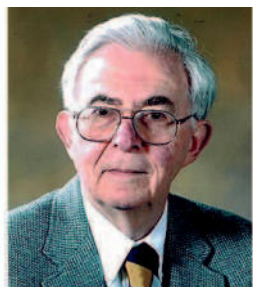
death by his sister and her husband, May and Bud Fenton; survived by their family, George (Debbi) Fenton, Jeffrey (Nancy) Fenton, and Carolyn (Mike) McVeigh. Larry was a graduate of Dormont High School and Carnegie Tech (now CMU). A gifted pianist, he won the Pittsburgh Concert Society Auditions in both the young artist and adult categories, and was a featured performer for the Steinyard Society Concert Series. He performed locally in many bands and as a soloist, remembered by many for his 20 years at the Gandy Dancer piano bar. We will be forever grateful to Vitas Healthcare and the incredibly kind, capable caregivers of Home Instead, especially Marjorie and Romelyn, who became like family. Services will be private. laughlinfuneralhome.com
 Send condolences post-gazette.com/gb

JEAN H. BORLAND

January 31, 1935 - February 14, 2021

Age 86, passed away peacefully February 14, 2021 at home surrounded by family. She was the loving wife of Paul C. Borland, Jr. (deceased) and loyal sister of Ruth Grandin (deceased); dear mother of Mark Borland, Paula (John) Marcinkevich, and Scott (Karen) Borland; loved and admired grandmother of Kelly (Patrick) Danber and Rebecca (Nicholas) Gambow and cherished friend to many. Jean grew up in the Sharpsburg, Pennsylvania and graduated from Aspinwall high school in 1952. She attended the University of Pittsburgh, was a member of Kappa Alpha Theta sorority and earned her degree in education. Jean taught fourth grade before marrying the love of her life and raising her family. She enjoyed splitting time each year between her two homes with her good friends in Pittsburgh and Bradenton, Florida. Many knew her as a skilled bridge player, especially her sister with whom she played in many tournaments. Together, they were a formidable team. Jean was also an avid, and vocal, fan the Pittsburgh Steelers, Penguins, Pirates, and her alma mater's Pitt Panthers. Her beautiful smile, compassion, generous heart and love for others defined her. Her legacy is love. Jean brightened every room she entered and made all feel as if they were the most important person in that room. A Celebration of Life is being planned and will be held later this year. In lieu of flowers, contributions may be made to Tidewell Hospice, American Macular Degeneration Foundation, Pittsburgh Parks Conservancy, and Flight 93 National Memorial.
 Send condolences post-gazette.com/gb

DR. THOMAS G. BENEDEK



Age 94, of Verona, formerly of Squirrel Hill Pittsburgh, died peacefully after a short illness on February 15, 2021, at UPMC, St. Margaret's Hospital. He was born in 1926 in Leipzig, Germany and escaped Nazism in 1936 when he emigrated to Chicago with his parents, Dr. Tibor Benedek, Dr. Therese Benedek; and his sister, Judy. Higher education at the University of Chicago was interrupted by WWII, when he

enlisted in the Navy and served in the Pacific. A keen photographer, he was responsible for taking some of the official photos of Japanese military officials signing Documents of Surrender on his destroyer. Those photos are filed with the official US Military Historical Records. After the war, Tom graduated from the University of Chicago, and continued his education at their Medical School where he met his beloved wife of 70 years, Gladys. They married in Chicago in 1950, and after completing his Internal Medicine and Rheumatology training, they moved with their two sons to Pittsburgh in 1956. Dr. Benedek had two distinguished careers in patient care and the other in teaching and research. He served as Chief of Rheumatology and Director of the Arthritis Clinic at the Oakland VA Hospital, a position he held for over 30 years. He enjoyed teaching courses in the History of Medicine, rising to the rank of Professor of Medicine, at the University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine. He always had time for his students, many of whom asked for advice on their career choices. He published numerous scientific articles in medical journals and the Encyclopaedia Britannica. He also had two books published on the clinical aspects and history of rheumatic and infectious diseases, with a specific interest in gout and scleroderma. The later book was completed when he was 92 (2018). The breadth of his scholarship in the history of medicine across time and subjects is noteworthy. Dr. Benedek was president of the American Association for the History of Medicine, and has lectured at their international conferences, sometimes taking him to moments in history. He was in Prague soon after the USSR invaded in 1968, went into East Berlin to see the conditions during the communist occupation, and returned to Leipzig when a building honoring his mother's research in psychoanalysis was dedicated. He also traveled widely with Gladys, as both were curious to visit foreign countries and be exposed to their cultures. Before moving to a retirement community in Verona two years ago, Tom and Gladys lived in Squirrel Hill for 60 years, where they lovingly raised their three children, all of whom attended Taylor Alderdice High School and have successful careers. He is survived by his devoted wife, Gladys; and their three children, James (Laurie), David, Martha (John Mather); and three grandchildren, Dakota, Philip and Melissa; and also, Tom's sister, Judy in Chicago; and her three children. A memorial service will be arranged at a future date when friends and family can safely travel. In lieu of flowers, a donation could be made to the Division of Rheumatology and addressed to Dana Ascherman, MD, 712 Biomedical Science Tower South, 3500 Terrace Street, Pittsburgh, PA 15261. Professional Services trusted to **THOMAS M. SMITH FUNERAL HOME & CREMATORY, LTD.**, (Blawnox) www.thomasmsmith.com.
 Send condolences post-gazette.com/gb

JAMES BOSCO



Age 81, died on February 18, 2021. Jim was born April 18, 1939, in Pittsburgh, PA, the son of Joseph and Theresa (Pezone) Bosco. The youngest of three boys, Jim grew up on the north side of Pittsburgh. The scent of fresh tomatoes from the Heinz ketchup factory filled the neighborhood. Education was always important to Jim. He graduated with his masters from University of Pittsburgh and PhD from University of

Columbia. He met Sharon, the woman who held the key to his heart, while attending college. After marrying in 1965 they moved to Kalamazoo where Jim became a professor at Western Michigan University. He was a fierce advocate for local wonders like Asylum Lake. He was also instrumental in the Kalamazoo Promise and even helped Pittsburgh begin a similar program. Nothing meant more to Jim than his family. He was his children's biggest fan and supporter and the many adventures he shared with Sharon created a treasure of memories. His fabulous sense of humor earned him many friends along the way. Jim was preceded in death by his parents and his brothers, Bishop Anthony Bosco of Greensburg, PA, and Joseph Bosco of New Kensington, PA. Surviving are his wife of 54 wonderful years, Sharon; children, Mark (Laura) Bosco, James (Elizabeth) Bosco, Jr., and Joseph (Carrie) Bosco; five grandchildren, Bella, Mark, Anna, Juliet, and Anthony; and his nieces and nephews, Joanne, Gina, Mari Anne, and Eric. Cremation has taken place. A memorial mass will take place at a later date. Visit Jim's personal webpage at www.BetzlerLifeStory.com where you may read his Life Story, archive a favorite memory or photo, and sign his online guestbook. Memorial contributions may be made to Boulder Creek California Volunteer Fire Department. Arrangements by **BETZLER LIFE STORY FUNERAL HOME**, 6080 Stadium Drive, Kalamazoo, MI (269) 375-2900.
 Send condolences post-gazette.com/gb

MELVIN R. AUDLEY



Age 86, of Pittsburgh, passed away February 18, 2021. He was the beloved husband of Marian Audley; loving father of Denise (the late Frank) Wacker, Robert (Lori) Audley, Marian (Keith) Haynes, Janet (Steve) Guidas, Michele (Charlie) Marratto and the late Daniel Audley; Proud grandfather of ten grandchildren and great-grandfather to seven great-grandchildren; Son of the late Matthew and Estelle Audley;

He was the loving brother of Margaret Westwood, the late Lawrence Audley, Virginia Deet, Matthew Audley Jr. and Dolores Kirby; He is also survived by a host of nieces, nephews, extended family, cherished friends and neighbors. Arrangements by **BEINHAUER**. Friends received Monday, from 6:00 PM to 8:00 PM at 2630 W. Liberty Ave., 15216. A Mass of Christian Burial will be held Tuesday at 10:00 AM at St. Michael the Archangel Parish, St Bernard Catholic Church. Interment at Queen of Heaven Cemetery. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to the South West Meals on Wheels (www.southwestmealsonwheels.org).
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DORIS VIRGINIA BOOTH



Age 99, of Peters Township, PA formerly of Detroit, MI passed away on February 9, 2021. Born on April 21, 1921 in Detroit, MI, she is the daughter of the late Clifton and Florence Armour. Beloved wife to the late Albert Charles Booth. Loving mother to Douglas (Wanda) Booth of Vero Beach, FL, Kathleen (Paul) Magnell of Naples, FL and Karen McFedries of Pittsburgh, PA. Cherished grandmother to

Kimberly (Warren), Amy, Stacey (John), Jay (Kelly), Sarah, Corey (Jeff), Greg (Carter), Morgan L. (Ron) and Abbey (Andrew). Loving great-grandmother to Amrita, Aaron, Rachael, Tyler, Hannah, Morgan A., Henry, Mae, Gus, Sam, Charlotte, Luke, Cate, Violet, Ben, and Sam. She was preceded in death by her siblings, Ruth Hammerstein and Donald Armour. Doris enjoyed gardening, traveling, antiques, the Jitterbug and entertaining family and friends. She had a special gift for making others feel treasured and loved. Doris will be missed by all. A memorial service will be held privately. Interment will take place at the National Cemetery of the Alleghenies. Arrangements have been entrusted to **PITTSBURGH CREMATION and FUNERAL CARE**, 3287 Washington Road, McMurray, PA 15317, (724) 260-5546. Please view and sign the family's online guestbook at pittsburghcremation.com.



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LELAND S. BLOUGH, MD

Peacefully on Sunday, February 14, 2021, Leland S. Blough MD, age 92, of McCandless. Son of the late Homer C. Blough, MD and Katherine (Speigle) Blough. Beloved husband for 66 years of the late Mary H. (Inserra) Blough; father of Leland (Claire) S. Blough, Jr. of AL, Lynn (Sean) Garvey of Pgh., Laura Inserra of WA, and Matthew (Lisa) Blough of Pgh.; brother of the late Lela Mae Kohler; grandfather of Nathan, Kelly, Joshua, Leah, Brenna, Meredith, Clayton, and Griffin; great-grandfather of Ayla, Truly, Keegan, Hadley, Patrick, and Hazel. Dr. Blough graduated from the University of Pittsburgh in 1947 and from the University of Pittsburgh Medical School in 1951. He proudly served in the US Army from 1954-64 where he completed his general and orthopedic surgery residencies. While in the Army, he attended the Command and General Staff College, and attained the rank of Major, US Army, Medical Corps. He practiced Orthopedic Surgery from 1964-1996 at Passavant Hospital having served on many committees and performed Passavant's first arthroscopic knee surgery. Dr. Blough was an accomplished musician, and played the trombone in both the Johnstown Symphony and the Buddy Wills Orchestra, a popular dance band, in the 1940s. Funeral arrangements are private by **SIMONS FUNERAL HOME, INC.** In lieu of flowers, contributions may be made to University of Pittsburgh Medical School c/o Jennifer Gabler Major Gifts Officer gjennifer@pmhsf.org or Parkinson Foundation Western Pennsylvania, 575 Lincoln Ave. #101, Bellevue, PA 15202 pfrwa.org
 Send condolences post-gazette.com/gb

MAXINE SLAVONSKY BRUNWASSER

Loving daughter of the late Florence (Weinberg) and Maurice Slavovsk; devoted wife of the late Albert Brunwasser, and wonderful mother of Lou Ann (Cliff) May, Brenda (Jeff) Southworth, Eileen (Randy) Sherman and Allison (Jeff) Nabonsal and grandmother of 10 devoted grandchildren, Miranda and Evan May, Griffin, Gillian and Tyler Southworth, Justin and Marissa Sherman, Alex, Nate and Sabrina Nabonsal and dog mom to her rescue princess, Zelda. Maxine was born in New Castle, PA and grew up surrounded by a loving family with many aunts, uncles and cousins. She graduated from the Canonsburg General Hospital Nurses Training Program before a brief stint in the US Army reserves as a registered nurse. Throughout her lengthy career at Kane Hospital, Woodville and Mayview State Hospitals she made many lifelong friends. Upon her retirement as a nursing supervisor, she enjoyed traveling to visit her daughters and her extended family. She also found the time to see a bit of the world with friends and relatives. Some of Maxine's favorite things to do included touring museums, seeing a show, sampling baked goods, watching ghost movies and enjoying a restaurant meal out with friends. But more than anything else, she loved to shop, and especially enjoyed a one-day sale. She is famous for her cookie baking, and we will all miss her delicious treats. (Although, she herself could have lived exclusively on banana splits!) She was a longtime member of Beth El Congregation of the South Hills and enjoyed participating in first Monday programs there. Maxine was fun and funny, a great mom and grandma to her daughters, grandchildren and Chihuahua, Zeldie. She will be sorely missed by many. Services and Interment Private. Donations can be made in Maxine's memory to Washington Area Humane Society at <http://www.washingtonpashelter.org>. Arrangements entrusted to **RALPH SCHUGAR CHAPEL, INC.**, family owned and operated. www.schugar.com.
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CLASSIFIED OBITUARIES

THOMAS EDWARD BUGEL



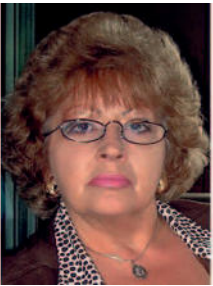
Of Wexford, died in his home on February 11, 2021, at the age of 76. Son of the late Joseph E. and Anna Mae "Dolly" Bugel; beloved husband of 53 years to Gaye M. (Noroski) Bugel; loving father of his daughter and son-in-law, Tracy L. and Gerald W. Pflug; son, Thomas J. Bugel; and son and daughter-in-law, Jared D. and Gina M. Bugel. Preceded in death by sister, Elaine M. Ambrose; and brother, Joseph J. Bugel. Tom was a dedicated and loving grandfather to Katie M. Pflug, Talia M. Bugel, Joseph W. Bugel and Jase T. Bugel. A highly sought after athlete from West Homestead, Tom was recruited by the legendary football coach, Woody Hayes, to Ohio State University. Tom was strong in character, academic prowess, great athletic ability and western Pennsylvania toughness. His academic and athletic experience well prepared him for the full life he enjoyed. Tom was an owner and partner of East Liberty Electroplating and was an avid golfer and longtime member of Chartiers Country Club. A Funeral Mass will be held and St. John and Paul Catholic Church at 11 a.m. on Wednesday, February 24, 2021. EVERYONE PLEASE MEET AT CHURCH. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to the St. Jude Children's Research Hospital. Arrangements entrusted to the **SAVOLSKIS-WASIK-GLENN FUNERAL HOME, INC.**, 3501 Main Street, Munhall, PA 15120. Condolences may be left at: www.swgfuneralhome.com
Send condolences post-gazette.com/gb

MARY (FILIPPELLI) CARROLL



Age 80, unexpectedly, with her husband by her side at their Clover Leaf Estates home on Tuesday, February 16, 2021. Beloved wife of William Carroll, Jr. Mother of Suzanne, David (Tina), and Michael (Darlene) Kappert, Michelle (Jim) Sionko, Michael (Valerie) Carroll, Bradley (Virginia) Carroll, Mary (John) Mahoney, and Kevin (Michelle) Carroll. Sister of Rose Gowaldo, Sylvia Bock, and the late Michael and Nick Filippelli. Mary was a former Ryan Home Employee in Administrative Management and also worked in home health aide for over 10 years. Mary's love was her family and she will be dearly missed by all who knew her. Visitation Sunday only 2-4 and 6-8 p.m. at the **SCHEPNER-MCDERMOTT FUNERAL HOME, INC.**, 165 Noble Ave., Crafton. As per current health restrictions, masks and social distancing are required. A private Blessing Service will be held for family only.
www.schepnermcdermott.com
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VIRGINIA R. (ZOELLER) CARTER



Age 72, of Pittsburgh, PA. Passed away peacefully on Monday, February 15, 2021. Wife of the late Wayne Carter. Ginny was preceded in death by her parents, James and Dolores Zoeller. She is survived by her sister, Karen Mayer (Bill); nephew, William S. Mayer; niece, Jodi (Mayer) Kaliniak (Rob); sister-in-law, Leslie Carter and numerous cousins. There will be no visitation. A memorial mass will be celebrated by her cousin, Father Thomas Schaefer, at a later date. Professional Services trusted to **D'ALESSANDRO FUNERAL HOME & CREMATORY, LTD.**, Lawrenceville.
www.dalesandroldt.com
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RICHARD ALVIN CLANAGAN



Richard Alvin Clanagan, 77, of East Pittsburgh, passed away on Feb. 7, 2021, at 9 a.m., peacefully in the arms of his eldest daughter, at home. He was born May 6, 1943, to the late William and Mary Clanagan in Braddock. Richard attended the North Braddock Schools. Before graduating, he enlisted in the U.S. Army in 1963. He was honorably discharged in 1965. He returned home to Pennsylvania for a few years before moving to Pontiac, Mich. While in Pontiac, he became very active in the community and deeply involved in politics. It was his mission to make his city great, and he did. Richard had a few businesses of his own throughout his life. He was a well-known carpenter, which was his passion. He owned and operated R&J Painting, The Carwash, Mysti's Snack Shop and Knight to King Chess Club/Gaming Room. Rich loved to play and teach the game of chess to any willing participant. He was preceded in death, in addition to his parents, by two brothers, Leroy and James Clanagan. Richard leaves to cherish his memory seven children, Richard (Dawn) Ruffin, Jaisen Clanagan, Mysti Clanagan, Taniasha (Andre) Warren, TaLor (Will) Smith, Stefanie McDaniel and Jessica Gallon; and a bonus daughter, Marlyne Moore; his sisters, Connie Hill, Ruth Clanagan, Judith (Caleb) Scott and Noreen Johnson; his brother, Billy Cromer; 19 grandchildren; 19 great-grandchildren; and a host of nieces, nephews, cousins and friends. A special thank you to Dr. Merriam, Rikki Grimsley, who was dad's home health aide who went over and above to make daddy comfortable, and Nurse Rachel from Three Rivers Hospice. Arrangements have been entrusted to **WILLIAM R. TAYLOR FUNERAL HOME**, 645 McMahon Ave., Monessen, PA. A memorial celebration of life for Richard will be held at 1 p.m. Feb. 23, 2021, at American Legion, Post 527, 401 Draper St., East Pittsburgh, PA 15104. Officiating will be the Rev. Dr. Richard Wingfield, pastor of the Unity Baptist Church in Braddock.
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DOROTHEA P. "DOTTIE" CLARKE

Dorothea P. "Dottie" Clarke, 80, of Penn Hills passed away on Thursday, February 18, 2021. Daughter of the late Thomas H. and Dorothy H. Clarke. Dottie graduated from Penn Hills High School and attended Point Park University before working at US Steel where she retired in 1999 after 34 years. She enjoyed gardening, planning high school reunions, her beloved Golden Retrievers, and her former monthly lunches with the Red Hat Society, which she lead for multiple years. Dottie will be deeply missed by all who knew her. The neighborhood will never be the same without her. In this time of Covid-19, there will be no visitation. A memorial service for Dottie will be held at a later time. Expressions of sympathy may be made in Dottie's memory to WAGS (12439 Roth Drive, North Huntingdon, PA 15642), the Golden Retriever Rescue caring for her dog, Fred. Arrangements entrusted to the **GEORGE IRVIN GREEN FUNERAL HOME, INC.**
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GRETA GOLD COLEMAN

On Wednesday, February 17, 2021. Beloved wife of the late Dr. Morton Coleman. Loving mother of Howard (Linda) Coleman and Jim (Adele) Coleman. Sister-in-law of Phyllis (late Lester) Dreyfuss. Grandmother of Hannah Coleman (Alvaro Vela), Aaron Coleman and Cecil McCumber. Great-grandmother of Miles and Gabriel Vela. Also survived by numerous nieces and nephews. Services and Interment PRIVATE. The family requests that remembrances be made in the form of contributions to UPMC's Thomas E. Starzl Transplantation Institute (<https://www.upmc.com/services/transplant/about/starzl-institute/giving>). Arrangements entrusted to **RALPH SCHUGAR CHAPEL, INC.**, family owned and operated. www.schugar.com.
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ANNE MARIE COCHRAN

Age 83, of West Mifflin and formerly of Hazelwood. Anne entered into rest peacefully on Wednesday, February 17, 2021. Beloved wife of the late William F. Cochran. Loving mother of Robert T. Schuffert (Bea), Terri A. Szuch (Jack) and Kathleen M. Najeski-Lucas (Dan). Mother-in-law of the late Thomas W. Najeski, Sr. Grandmother of Robert T. Schuffert, Jr. (Natalie), Steven A. Schuffert (Erika), the late Joshua M. Schuffert, Diana M. Szuch (Michael), Kathleen J. Szuch-Colon (Paul), John J. Szuch, Jr. (Bethany), Thomas W. Najeski, Jr. (Samantha) and William P. Najeski (Jennifer). Great-grandmother of Aiden, Logan, Sophia, Jayci and Olive May (expected June 2021). Gya and Willie were very special to Anne. Best Friend and sister-in-law to the late Geraldine Popoleo. Anne was a life-long member of St. Stephen Church. The Cochran Family wishes to extend their thanks and appreciation to the Staff of Family Hospice UPMC Canterbury for their kind and compassionate care. No calling hours are planned. Local Arrangements by the **JOHN D. O'CONNOR AND SON FUNERAL HOME, INC.**, 5106 Second Avenue, 15207, 412-521-8116.
Send condolences post-gazette.com/gb

JEAN (KOLB) DAMITS



Age 87, of Crafton, passed away peacefully on Friday, February 19, 2021. Wife of the late Benton Damits, Sr.; beloved mother of Benton (Marsha) Damits, Jr., Donna (David) Piet, Tina (late Donald) Otey, Janet (Roy) Fischer; eight grandchildren with one angel in Heaven and 11 great-grandchildren; sister of Fred "Itzel", the last of the six Kolb siblings. Jean's family always came first, she will be dearly missed by them and all who knew her. As per current health restrictions, masks and social distancing are required. Visitation Monday, 3-8 p.m. at the **SCHEPNER-MCDERMOTT FUNERAL HOME, INC.**, 165 Noble Ave., Crafton. Mass of Christian Burial 10 a.m. Tuesday in Ascension Catholic Church, 115 Berry St., Pittsburgh, PA 15205. Jean was a member of the Women's Auxiliary an active church member. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to Ascension Church.
www.schepnermcdermott.com
Send condolences post-gazette.com/gb

BURL E. DAVIS



Burl E. Davis, 85, formerly of Plum passed away on Tuesday, February 16, 2021. Beloved husband of the late Barbara J. Davis. Loving father of the Rev. Michael (Rev. Janice) Davis, Melinda (Dr. Kevin) O'Toole, Sara (John) Ward, Ann (Mark) Helfrich, and the late Glenn Davis. Grandfather of Benjamin (Melissa) Yosua-Davis, Bradley (Heidi) O'Toole, Mathew (Patsy) Frey-Davis, Drew (Erica) O'Toole, Amanda (Greg) Hill, Sara (Sam) Loevner, Alicia Helfrich, Madeline Ward, and the late Joshua Helfrich. Great-grandfather of Michael, Genevieve, Thomas, Charles, and Eric. Brother of Shirley (Don) Hansel, the late Lessie Shashak, and the late Deanna Doyle. He was a longtime member of Oakmont Methodist Church and more recently Dutilh Methodist Church in Cranberry. Professionally, Burl was known for his expertise and work in UCG (Underground Coal Gasification). He enriched the lives of all that knew him with unconditional love, acceptance, and humor. Viewing and funeral service will be private for the family. Interment in Plum Creek Cemetery. If desired, please consider donating blood platelets in his Memory or donate to the National Multiple Sclerosis Society. Arrangements entrusted to **BURKET-TRUBY FUNERAL HOME CREMATION & ALTERNATIVE SERVICES, INC.**, Oakmont.
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PETER A. DREON

Age 57, of Bridgeville, on February 17, 2021. Beloved son of Roberta (Chappel) Dreon and the late Elio Dreon; loving brother of Leah (late Randall) Cirata, Cynthia Zaney, Danielle (Gene) Collavo and Denise (Rodney) Watson; also many loving nieces and nephews. Many friendships shared with love and laughs. Peter was owner of Peter Dreon Contracting. He was a gifted carpenter and craftsman. A member of the Italian Mutual Beneficial Society, Bridgeville. All services and interment will be private by the **WARCHOL FUNERAL HOME, INC.**, 3060 Washington Pike, Bridgeville (412-221-3333). In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to the Bridgeville V.F.D., 370 Commercial St., Bridgeville, PA 15017. View and condolences at: www.warcholfuneralhome.com
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EDWIN T. DUNBAR

Of Ridgeview Park in Derry borough, where he was known as the "Mayor," passed on February 13, 2021. Born May 18, 1932 in Pittsburgh, PA. He was a graduate of Carrick High School in 1950. He served in the Korean War until December 1954. Ed married Patricia Ann Dising on June 7, 1957 at Concord Presbyterian Church in Carrick. Pat was the love of his life, they were married 51 years. Ed was the son of Everett and Kathryn Dunbar. He is the brother of Jean Swift (Don) and the late George Eisenhauer and Ralph Miller. Ed is survived by his son, John (Donna) of Bethel Park; and grandchildren, Heather Hanna of Pittsburgh and John, Jr. (Michelle) of Monongahela; great-grandfather of Miles Hanna and John Dunbar III; also many cousins, nieces and nephews. Ed worked for Columbia Gas, Co. until 1994 and then moved to his favorite place, Ridgeview Park, until his death. Arrangements handled privately by the **DAVID J. HENNEY FUNERAL HOME**. Contributions may be sent in Edwin's name to Ridgeview Park, c/o Crist Berry, 2006 Grove Rd., Richmond, VA, 23220.
www.davidhenneyfuneralhome.com
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JOHN DeCENZO



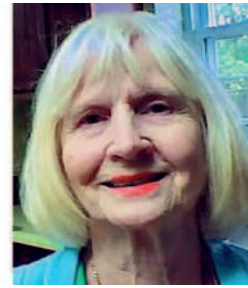
On Wednesday, February 17, 2021, John DeCenzo, 94, of Pitcairn. Husband of the late Mary Ann (Suknaich) DeCenzo. John was preceded in death by his parents Frank and Rose (Iantimarino) DeCenzo; his stepson, John Joseph Barry; his siblings, Dominick, Frank "Rollo" and Carmella Morriello; survived by his son, John Frank (Judy) DeCenzo and his sister, Anna Mae (the late Tom) Conroy; daughter-in-law, Michelle Barry; his grandchildren, Samantha and Deanna DeCenzo, William and Magenta Barry and Jason Barry, also many nieces and nephews. Friends received Monday, February 22, 2021, from 2-4 and 6-8 p.m. at the **WM. O. PEARCE FUNERAL HOME, INC.**, 318 Wall Avenue, Pitcairn. Mass of Christian Burial, Christ the Divine Shepherd Parish at St. Michael Church, Pitcairn, on Tuesday at 10 a.m. John was Chief of Police of Pitcairn from 1974-1989, he had 32 years in Law Enforcement; also worked for the Pennsylvania Railroad as a machinist and was a World War II Army Veteran. As per CDC guidelines, masks are required and social distancing will be in effect. Family asks donations be made in memory of John DeCenzo to the Pittsburgh VA Medical Center, 1010 Delafield Road, Pittsburgh, PA 15215.
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LIBBY EISENSTAT



Libby Eisenstat, a lifelong resident of Pittsburgh, passed away on Friday, February 12, 2021. She recently enjoyed celebrating her 91st birthday while watching the inaugural ceremony of our 46th president. She was the devoted daughter of the late Sarah and Morris Simon; and sister of the late Ben (Lil) Simon, Lillian (Phillip) Katzman and Ida (Aaron) Fox. She was the beloved wife of the late Sandy Eisenstat, who predeceased her by 30 years. She will be missed dearly by her son, Larry Eisenstat; and daughter-in-law, Diana Eisenstat, and daughter, Moira Kostman, and her partner, Marc Schmerin. She also leaves behind her adored grandchildren, Adam Kostman, Marni Kostman, Sam Eisenstat and Jacob Eisenstat. She was a favorite Aunt Libby to a host of nieces and nephews, great-nieces and nephews and great, great-nieces and nephews. Private graveside services were held on Sunday, February 14, 2021, and a celebration of her life will be scheduled when friends and family can safely gather. Contributions in her memory can be made to the Jewish Association on Aging. Arrangements entrusted to **RALPH SCHUGAR CHAPEL, INC.**, family owned and operated. www.schugar.com
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EDITH H. "JUDY" EVANS



Age 97, of the North Hills, formerly of Garfield and Shadyside, on Thursday, February 18, 2021. Beloved wife of the late Joseph L. Evans. Daughter of the late Joseph and Fannie Vance. Edith is survived by her son, Joseph A. Evans (Jean); her grandchildren, Dawn Roof (Barry) and Brianne Evans; and her great-grandchildren, Wyatt, Piper, and Jackson. She is preceded in death by her son, David A. Evans. Edith worked for Mine Safety during World War II. She was a loving homemaker who enjoyed dancing to Big Band music. Friends received at **MCCABE BROS., INC. FUNERAL HOME**, 5300 Penn Avenue, Bloomfield on Wednesday, February 24th, 2-4 and 6-8 p.m., where a Blessing Service will be held on Thursday, February 25th at 11 a.m. Burial to follow at Allegheny Cemetery. Masks, social distancing and occupancy limits will be required at the funeral home and cemetery. Condolences may be left at www.mccabebrothers.com
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ROSE FAILLA



Age 83, of Bethel Park, at home on Friday, February 19, 2021. Beloved wife of the late Nick Failla; daughter of the late Francesco and Maria (DiBona) Schillaci; loving mother of Salvatore (Peggy) Failla, Francesco, Rosemarie, Tina (Charles) Rafalowski; sister of the late Epifanio "Ben" Schillaci; dear grandmother of Robert (Brittany) Fichter, Jessica (Cody) Palmer, Emily Failla-Woods, Angela (Thomas) Rafalowski-Hopeck, Nathan Failla, Amanda Rafalowski, Charlie Rafalowski; great-grandmother of Gianna and Anthony Hopeck. Born in the town of Villarosa in Sicily, Rose was a proud longtime member of the Italian Sons and Daughters of America (I.S.D.A.) and I Campagnoli of Pittsburgh. Over the years, Rose expressed her entrepreneurial spirit through her hard work and love of cooking, but especially enjoyed spending time with her family and the passion of her grandchildren. Visitation and Services will be private by family only. **FREYVOGEL-SLATER FUNERAL DIRECTORS**, Bethel Park, entrusted with the Failla Family arrangements. www.slaterfuneral.com
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CHARLES JAMES "CHARLIE" FAUST

Age 57, of Stow, OH, passed away on February 15, 2021, after a brave battle with cancer. Loving husband of Anne Faust (Deppert); son of Kathleen (Kathy) M. Faust and the late John J. Faust; little brother of Mark (Jana); uncle to Jamie, John Jr. and Jenel Faust; son-in-law of Joseph and Joan Deppert. Charlie was born in Pittsburgh, PA and graduated from Brentwood High School in 1981. He went on to earn a degree from USMA West Point and served in the U.S. Army. He worked in various manufacturing facilities, most recently at Shearer's Foods. Charlie was "one of a kind", always enjoying the challenges in life; he was 100% in or not at all. He will be truly missed. A private funeral service will be held at a later date. If desired, memorial donations may be made in his name at oneofakindpets.com or woundedwarriorproject.com. Details will be provided at a later date for a Celebration of Charlie's Life to be planned for this summer. (REDMON, STOW, 330-688-6631).
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ALBERT J. FEOLA

Age 73, of Plum Boro., died Fri., Feb. 19, 2021. Born in Braddock, Mar. 8, 1947, to the late Joseph and Louis DePante Feola. An Army Veteran of the Vietnam War and worked as a driver for the Post-Gazette. Survived by wife of 46 years, Dolores Mannarino Feola; two sisters, Patricia Feola of Monroeville and Peggy Feola of East McKeesport. In addition to parents, he was preceded in death by his sister, Marty Lou Gibson. Private funeral services by **RUSIEWICZ FUNERAL HOMES, ARNOLD & LOWER BURRELL**.
www.RusiewiczFH.com
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LOUIS JOHN FISCHER

Age 90, of Bridgeville, on Saturday, February 13, 2021. Beloved husband of Mary Grace (Cancilia) Fischer; son of the late Louis John (Sr.) and Helen Devlon Fischer; loving father of Lynn Fischer Emmett, Louis Fischer and the late Danny Fischer; brother of the late Martha Boback, Robert and Ernie Fischer; grandfather of Shawn R. (Jennifer) Emmett and Ashley M. (Alex Wested) Emmett; great-grandfather of Jonathan, Justin, Joshua, Haley, and Hannah. Services were private by the family. Memorial services will be held at a later date. **WILLIAM SLATER II FUNERAL SERVICE**, Scott Twp. entrusted with the Fischer family arrangements.
www.slaterfuneral.com
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JEWEL M. FISHER

Age 68, born July 1, 1952, passed away peacefully at home on Friday, February 12, 2021. Jewel was a retired MSgt. after serving 20 years in the United States Air Force. Jewel's tour of duties included Texas, Japan, Hawaii, Arizona and New Mexico. During her time in the military Jewel enjoyed getting to know the people and the cultures of the different states and countries where she was stationed. She received a Bachelor of Arts degree from Carlow College (University). Jewel had worked for Allied Barton Security Services prior to her retirement. Jewel was an avid reader and embraced learning about and using new technologies in her day to day living. In her down time she enjoyed watching reruns of the TV shows from the 70's and 80's. She was a lover of all animals and contributed to their well-being on a day to day basis. Jewel was preceded in death by her parents, John and Miriam Fisher; and her sister, Wanda F. Fisher. She is survived by cousins, Paul (Rita) Hochstine, Cindy (John) Donovan, Tom (Ruth) Fisher, and James Fisher; and dear, devoted friends, John A. Fasanini and Tom Czekai. Her Funeral and Final Interment will be private. Arrangements by the **WALTER J. ZALEWSKI FUNERAL HOME**, Lawrenceville.
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CLASSIFIED OBITUARIES

NELVA LOUISE (CORDIAL) FROETSCHEL



Nelva Louise (Cordial) Froetschel, 91, passed peacefully on February 8, in Bethel Park. She was one of six children born in Westmoreland County to Stephen and Bernadine (Naylor) Cordial. Nelva was a devoted wife to Regis Froetschel (deceased) for 52 years, and a loving mother of four children, Regis Jr. (deceased), Joseph (Joan), Valerie, and Michael (deceased), four grandchildren, and three great-grandchildren. Nelva worked as a UPMC telephone operator until she was 80 years old, where she fondly became recognized as the voice of the morning announcements and could be found feeding the pigeons on her lunch break daily. She could spark a meaningful conversation with anyone, including total strangers, especially when talking about their pets. She had a kind, loving spirit and particularly enjoyed fresh flowers, shopping, traveling, and spending time with her family. The family held a very small, private viewing, but is welcoming condolences, memories, and heartfelt wishes at (website).

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VIRGINIA A. GODINO

On February 18, 2021, Virginia A. Godino, age 81, of Ross Twp., beloved wife of Dennis A. Godino; mother of Edward Bickel, Nicholas Bickel and the late Charles Bickel; sister of Carol (George) Leffler, Patricia (Dennis) Kane and the late Nicholas and William Schull; grandmother of Nicholas, Shawn, Lisa, Michael and Charles Bickel, Jr.; also survived by many nieces and nephews. Friends received Sunday, February 21, from 1:00 - 3:00 and 6:00 - 8:00 p.m. at **SIMONS FUNERAL HOME, INC.**, 7720 Perry Highway, www.simonsfuneralhome.com Mass of Christian Burial will be held on Monday, 10:00 a.m., at St Teresa of Avila Church - Our Lady of Mount Carmel Parish, 1000 Avila Ct. Contributions may be made to The Alzheimer's Association. www.alz.org.

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DAVID C. GREEN



David C. Green, 87, passed away peacefully in his sleep on February 14. He had been in declining health after contracting a rare blood infection last fall. A son of the Steel Valley and a passionate Pittsburgher, Dave's professional and personal pursuits had a profound impact on the community he loved. With his career peaking as Pittsburgh's economy was downsizing, Dave used his

communication and leadership skills to support the health and vitality of its civic and cultural institutions. While others fled, he doubled down, planting seeds that have blossomed into a revitalized city. Dave was born May 3, 1933, in the Pittsburgh neighborhood of Hays, on the Monongahela River, to David William Green and the former Elizabeth Schreiber Green. He graduated from Taylor Alderdice High School in 1950, then attended the University of Pittsburgh, where he majored in Political Science and graduated in 1954. He served as News Editor of the Pitt News, was an active member of the Sigma Chi fraternity, and participated in Air Force ROTC. At Pitt he also met Nancy Cook, another reporter on the paper, whom he married on April 2, 1955. Dave and Nancy began their married life in Sherman, Texas, where Dave fulfilled his ROTC obligation at the Perrin Air Force base. After his service, they returned to their beloved Pittsburgh and settled in Mt. Lebanon, where they would raise their family. Dave joined the corporate communications staff of Joy Manufacturing, decamping for PPG Industries in 1963 as Assistant Advertising Manager of the Chemical Division. He was promoted to Advertising Manager in 1968, then managed corporate advertising and design services. His final communications position at PPG was leading public and investor relations. Dave was a major force in the Pittsburgh advertising and communications community during his time at PPG, serving as President of the Pittsburgh Advertising Club in 1976-77, and President of the international Business and Professional Advertising Association (now Business Marketing Association) in 1977-78. He was awarded the BMA Lifetime Achievement Award in 1997 just prior to his retirement. Dave enjoyed a memorable career detour in 1972, taking a brief leave of absence from PPG when his Sigma Chi brother and lifelong friend Bud Shuster asked him to manage communications for his initial Congressional campaign. Dave jumped at the opportunity to combine his Political Science training with his communication skills to support his old friend. With Dave's help, Shuster won the hard-fought primary against a popular state representative, and went on to represent Pennsylvania's 9th District for 28 years. In another providential detour combining Dave's communication skills with his Pittsburgh pride, he served as Assistant to the Chairman and Executive Director of the PPG Industries Foundation in the mid-1980s. Dave relished this philanthropic leadership role, recognizing the opportunity to leverage PPG's position as one of Pittsburgh's leading corporate citizens to promote coordinated action to rejuvenate the region. Even after his retirement, Dave retained board leadership roles in civic institutions such as the Senator John Heinz History Center and the Mon Valley Initiative, which was instrumental in providing economic revitalization to the region after the devastation caused by the closure of the mills. Dave was recognized as a "Significant Sig" in 2005, an honor reserved for those few "whose exemplary achievements in their fields of endeavor have brought great honor and prestige to the name of Sigma Chi." Dave's leadership extended to volunteer service as well. He credited the Boy Scouts with introducing him to a broader world than the small community where he grew up, and paid it forward by leading Mt. Lebanon's Troop 28 from 1974 through 1986. In recognition of his outsized impact, a leadership award in his honor was created upon his retirement from the troop. He continued to serve scouting at a regional level, having joined the Board of the Pittsburgh Council in 1983, and after a restructuring became a member of the Laurel Highland Council's Leadership Board. He recently served as the Chair of the Endowment Committee and a member of the Governance Committee. He was particularly proud of the legacy he helped create in developing Camp Independence at Heritage Scout Reservation. Dave was a person of deep faith. He found his spiritual home at the Bower Hill Community Church, which he and Nancy joined in 1964 after being inspired by the social justice activism of the Rev. William Barker. Dave was an integral member of the church community, serving as an Elder for many years and chairing a multitude of committees. He was actively involved in the Presbyterian Church at the regional level as well, ultimately serving as Moderator of Pittsburgh Presbytery in 2007, the highest office available to a layperson. Dave lived each day to the fullest, and was committed to the excellence and continued success of the organizations that enriched his life. He was an avid sailor, winning many racing cups from the Moraine Sailing Club and serving in various leadership capacities. He downshifted to golf in his later years, recently serving as President of the Mt. Lebanon Senior Golf Association. He was also an avid consumer of the arts, especially music and theater, and maintained season subscriptions to the Pittsburgh Symphony and Pittsburgh Opera. He loved to travel, and he and Nancy enjoyed many international tours and cruises after retirement, but never wanted to live anywhere other than Pittsburgh. In addition to his beloved wife of 65 years, Dave is survived by his brother Frank Green and sister-in-law Jan Green; daughter Cathy Solomon and son Tom Green; son-in-law Bob Solomon and daughter-in-law Lori Green; and grandchildren Amy Solomon, Julie Solomon, Mark Green, and Eric Green, all of whom can attest to Dave's readiness to share his encyclopedic knowledge of political history, go for a ride on the incline, or teach them how to tie just the right knot. In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be directed to University of Pittsburgh Dietrich School of Arts and Sciences; Bower Hill Community Church; or the Laurel Highlands Council, Boy Scouts of America (attention Jerome Gaughan, Chief Development Officer, 1275 Bedford Ave., Pittsburgh 15219). A memorial service will be held at a later date. Arrangements entrusted to **WILLIAM SLATER II FUNERAL SERVICE**, Scott Twp. (412-563-2800) www.slaterfuneral.com

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NANCY JEAN GEIS



Nancy Jean Geis died on February 17, 2021, after a hard battle with cancer. She is the daughter of the late Clark and Frances Campbell. She is survived by her husband of 53 1/2 years, Dennis J. Geis; her sons, DJ (Sheri) and Jim (Jenny); and her sister, Alice McCausley. She is the loving grandmother of Leo, Jacob, Owen, Miriam, Michaela, and the late Noah. She is also survived by many nieces and nephews. Nancy

was raised in Dormont and graduated from Dormont High School in 1962. She then went on to Presbyterian Hospital School of Nursing, where she graduated in 1965, with her RN. She knew from early on that she wanted to be a nurse. Nancy worked at Presby for two years before marrying Dennis in 1967, and then started working at St. Clair Memorial Hospital. In 1995, she obtained her BS in Health Arts from the University of St. Francis. Nancy worked at St. Clair Hospital for 39 1/2 years, where she made many dear, lifelong friends. She always loved being a nurse. She found it to be such a rewarding career, and she helped many friends and neighbors in their time of need. Nancy loved going to their cottage in the mountains along the Allegheny River. They had many friends there, and had many picnics with neighbors over the years. She hosted several Christmas in July dinners complete with decorations, gifts, and the traditional dinner. She loved doing crafts, especially cross stitch projects. She made many beautiful cross stitch gifts that remain keepsakes for friends and family members. Her purest joy was being "Grammy," watching and playing with her grandsons, attending soccer, tee ball, and baseball games, music concerts, and school plays. And then she became "Mimi" to her granddaughters, enjoying Disney princesses, Star Wars, and Toy Story. She finally got to shop for girlie dresses and toys. Family and friends welcome Sunday 2-4 and 6-8 pm at **WILLIAM SLATER II FUNERAL SERVICE**, 1650 Greentree Rd., Scott Twp. 15220. Private Service will be held Tuesday at her church. In lieu of flowers, please send donations to Bower Hill Community Church, 70 Moffet St., Pittsburgh, PA 15243.

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WALTER FOX GERDE, JR.



Age 80, of Scott Twp., on Monday, February 15, 2021, surrounded by his family. Walt is survived by his beloved wife of 57 years, Beverly (Christoff) Gerde. Loving father of Michelle (Jeffrey) All and Denise (Christopher) Alexander. He was the greatest "Pap" to his grandchildren, Ashlee, Angela, Aaron All and Ryan, Zachary and Brooke Alexander. His joy was attending gymnastics, softball, hockey games and dance recitals. He is survived by his brother-in-law, Wayne Christoff (Victoria Batcha). Walt was employed at Equitable Gas Company for 42 years, also an usher and security guard at the "Civic Arena." He was a veteran of the U.S. Army Reserves and an avid fan of Pittsburgh sports and NASCAR. Walt cherished his friends at "Silver Sneakers," JCC South Hills. Arrangements have been entrusted to **SZAFRANSKI-EBERLEIN FUNERAL HOME, INC.**, 101 Third St., Carnegie where a private family visitation was held due to COVID-19 restrictions. Walt was laid to rest with a private Burial in Queen of Heaven Cemetery. www.szafranski-eberleinfuneralhome.com

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EVELYN RITA (PANUCCI) GROSS

Gross, Evelyn Rita (Panucci), age 98, of Franklin Park, on Saturday, February 13, 2021. Wife of the late Robert Gross; loving mother of Janet Moran (Ronald), Glenn Gross (Lynne), Terry Gross (Barbara), and Robert Gross (daughter, Ashley); sister of Joseph Panucci; grandmother of Cheri, Ryan, Erin, Sarah, Kate, Grant, Ashley and Amanda; Also survived by 14 great-grandchildren. Evelyn was predeceased by her parents, Joseph and Rose (Oriola) Panucci and three brothers and 12 sisters. Visitation is private due to the pandemic. Mass of Christian Burial on Tuesday, February 23 at 11 a.m. in St. John Neumann Church, Franklin Park. In lieu of flowers, the family suggests donations to a fundraiser, established by a granddaughter, for the Lymphoma and Leukemia Society, https://events.ils.org/wpa/wpa21/tcureageou. Arrangements with **GEORGE A. THOMA FUNERAL HOME, INC.**, (thomafuneralhome.com)

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EDWARD T. "ED" HAYES



Was a loving husband, father, grandfather, and friend. He left this world on February 17, 2021 at age 85. He was born as an only child to Edward J. and Pauline Hayes. Ed attended the University of Pittsburgh and was a member of the Delta Sigma Phi fraternity, as well as participated in ROTC. Post graduation, he continued his military commitment in the Army Reserve. After leaving the reserves, Ed had a

fulfilling engineering career spanning over 40 years that took him around the globe. Ed met and married the love of his life, Eleanor, with whom he recently celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary. Together they have five children, Mary Pat Shanahan (Tom), Karen Lala (Charlie), Eddie Hayes (Michelle), Janet Kress (John), Joanne Rooney (Bryan) and twelve grandchildren, Dylan, Ryan, and Haley Shanahan, Nick, Devon, and CJ Lala, Sophia Hayes, Zachary, Abigail and Madelyn Kress, Hayes and Nolan Rooney. The simple pleasures in life brought great joy to Ed. He loved a lively evening playing cards with family or an active day on the golf course. He was passionate about his role as the President of the St. Catherine St. Vincent de Paul, which he held for many years. No Visitation. Arrangements by **NEELY FUNERAL HOME**, 2208 Mt. Royal Blvd., Glenshaw. Mass of Christian Burial will be held on Monday, February 22nd at St. Catherine of Sweden Church, Wildwood Rd., Allison Park at 1 p.m. EVERYONE PLEASE MEET AT CHURCH. In lieu of flowers, please donate to the Lewy Body Dementia Association, North Hills Arden Court, or Hope Hospice. Please visit us at: www.neelyfuneralhome.com

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HOWARD KURT HEINZ

April 5, 1940 - December 3, 2020



Passed away in Berkeley, California. Born and raised in Pittsburgh; son of the late Howard Irvin and Elizabeth Magdalene Heinz. Kurt was preceded in death by his wife, Elizabeth Heinz. He is survived by his son, Alexander Heinz (wife, Samantha Heinz). Brother of Carol Kirwin; brother-in-law to Michael Kirwin, Robert Montgomery, Sharon, and Josette; uncle to Ryan and Brendan Kirwin and Gavin and Zane Montgomery. Kurt graduated from Shaler High School in 1958 and earned a bachelor's degree in Industrial Design from Carnegie Institute of Technology in 1964. Worked at Peter Muller-Munk Associates in Pgh., for Bill Kisselhoff Associates and Wyman & Cannon in NYC, traveling extensively for international projects. After moving to CA in 1984, he started his own graphic design business. Retired in 2012. He is remembered by family, friends and colleagues as a kind, thoughtful man who was a creative designer, craftsman, photographer, woodworker, and coffee aficionado. Please consider making a donation to the American Brain Tumor Association.

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JANE TWIGGER HANEY



After an incredible journey of 92 years, Jane McCutcheon Twigger Haney, born December 1, 1928, passed away on February 17, 2021. Although Jane's final days were in State College, PA, she returned to her beloved Pittsburgh for her final rest. Born on Homehurst Ave. in Pittsburgh, a graduate of Carrick High School, Jane spent most of her life in the borough of Brentwood and lived in Pleasant Hills prior to

moving to State College in 2013. Jane is survived by her devoted children, Janet Haney, Patti DiSanto (Dale), Brian Haney (Charlie Buscemi), and her beloved daughter-in-law, Andrea Haney (wife of her late son, Bruce). Those lucky enough to have called her "Gram" include Ryan DiSanto, Sara Haney Stroud (Kelvin), Kelli Lotter (Justin), Kevin DiSanto, and Mackenzie Haney. Jane enjoyed the privilege of time spent with her precious great-grandchildren, Mathis, Ashton, Beckham, and Millie, and was blessed to have been loved by many nieces and nephews, cousins, and friends. Jane was predeceased by her husband Edward; her parents; her brother, William Twigger; her sister, Mabel Speicher; and son, Bruce. Over the 92 years that Jane Haney has been on her quest, she has accomplished many things great and small - and all with a sense of humility and selflessness. Jane led a remarkable life dedicated to the service of others and was the epitome of grace and kindness. She was honored as "Person-of-the-Year" in Pittsburgh's South Hills in 1997. From the neighbors who depended on Jane to prepare their income taxes, to the countless volunteer hours spent on numerous activities, her life was reflective of her passion for serving others. Her volunteer service included: Brentwood School Board (22 years, serving as president for many of those years), Brentwood Library board (Treasurer), Brentwood Boosters Organization, Girl Scouts leadership (40 years), softball team coaching, PTA, Goodwill Industries, Southeastern Area Special Schools Venture (President), Brentwood Borough Historical Society, and more. A room at the Brentwood Library was named in Jane's honor on November 18, 2011. With all of the time spent trying to make her/our community and world a better place, Jane still found time for a full-time job - in order to provide support for her children's education and their activities. Jane worked at Carnegie Museum as a bookkeeper and spent the largest portion of her employment years at South Hills Country Club as Office Manager. Upon retirement from South Hills, Jane was honored with a club membership, which is reflective of the esteem in which she was held. With all of the time spent on volunteering and work, and "managing her household," Jane managed to find time for the special things for family and friends: the "cookie press cookies", the hand-made dresses and Halloween costumes, picnics and birthday parties, home-cooked meals, and clothes that were ironed, the typing of term papers, and celebrations of all kinds. Her home, albeit tiny and small, was large with life! Jane loved all things Pittsburgh and all things Brentwood. Jane was a great sports enthusiast and the most ardent of Pirates fans. From her time as a young girl, she followed the Pirates. In her last ten years or so living in Pittsburgh, Jane had season tickets to Pirates games, attending them with either her husband Edward, or her "best friend" Janet. In addition to Pittsburgh and Brentwood sports, Jane attended sporting events for her grandchildren, cultural events, concerts, exhibits, and plays extensively and whenever possible. Jane was a dedicated and active member of the church she grew up in (Fairhaven United Methodist Church) and the church she joined as a young parent and attended for decades (Baldwin Community Methodist Church). From her travels to far places or exploration of things near, Jane exhibited an extraordinary thirst for knowledge and adventure. Eleanor Roosevelt said: "We must do the things we think we cannot do," and Jane was truly fearless, living her life by the Nike slogan: "Just do it!" A private family service, due to this time of COVID, will be held at the **JOHN F. SLATER FUNERAL HOME**, on Sunday morning, February 21, 2021. Family and friends are welcome to join the virtual visitation through Zoom. The link will open at 10:00 am on Sunday, February 21, 2021. The Zoom ID can be obtained by calling the John F. Slater Funeral Home at 412-881-4100. A private burial service and interment will be in Allegheny County Memorial Cemetery, Allison Park, PA. In addition to the private family service, a celebration of life service is expected to occur on a future date when the many who knew and loved "Janey Haney" can gather to honor and remember a great soul, a remarkable woman, and a life well-lived. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to either: Brentwood Library, 3501 Brownsville Rd., Pittsburgh, PA 15227, www.BrentwoodPublicLibrary.org or Goodwill of Southwestern Pennsylvania, Robert S. Foltz Building, 118 52nd Street, Pittsburgh, PA 15201, www.goodwillswpa.org/donate-money. Arrangements handled by the **JOHN F. SLATER FUNERAL HOME**, 4201 Brownsville Road, Pittsburgh, PA 15227. Please send condolences to www.johnslater.com.

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JEAN T. (SLUPEK) HEISER



Peacefully, passed away on Thursday, February 18, 2021. Jean was born on November 16, 1926, in Lawrenceville. She married her loving husband, Joseph on August 23, 1947. She was the mother of Richard (Marylou) Heiser, Janine (Dennis) Kopko and the late Christine (surviving husband, Ray) Pilarski and Donald J. (surviving wife, Debbie) Heiser; grandmother of Angela (Dave) Scullo, Adrienne (Brent) Biagi, Denise

Heiser, Jeffrey Pilarski, Kristan Heiser and Jeannie (Bob) Byrnes; great-grandmother of Julianna, Nicholas, Christine, Ava, Joseph and Finnegan. She was preceded in death by her brothers and sisters. She was the aunt of Barbara Starr and also survived by additional nieces and nephews. Jean was a homemaker and lifelong member of St. Jude Parish (formerly St. Raphael Parish) in Morningside. Jean loved cats, and there was always one in her home, most recently her beloved Casey. All she met, recall her sweetness and her love for and pride in her children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren. Jean loved her family above all else. She was never more happy than when everyone was all together for Sunday dinners, holidays, birthdays and visits. Jean was admired for her strength and grace. Her family was able to spend time with her during her final days on earth. Her life has come full circle as she joins God, Jesus and her family in heaven-her beloved husband Joseph, her daughter Chrissy and her son Donnie. Family and friends are welcomed at the **WALTER J. ZALEWSKI FUNERAL HOME**, 216 44th Street, Lawrenceville, on Sunday, February 21, 2021, from 2-8 p.m. Funeral Mass at St. Jude Parish, St. Raphael Church on Monday, February 22, 2021, at 10:00 a.m. Memorial contributions can be made in Jean's name to Animal Friends, 562 Camp Horne Rd., Pittsburgh, PA 15237 or www.thinkingoutsidethecage.com

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ANTOINETTE "TONI" (VELTRE) HERBST



Suddenly on Thursday, February 18, 2021, of Wilkins Twp., formerly of Swissvale, age 73. Wife of the late Leonard W. Herbst; loving mother of Tina Micale and her husband, Greg, of Plum and Michelle Henkel and her husband, Bob, of Braddock Hills; dear grammy of Robby, Logan, Luke, Dominick (Lynal) and the late Sean; sweet Gigi Toni to Jack; sister of Madge Wintermantel, Tony Veltre (Donna), Vince Veltre (Bari), Terri Checchio and the late Mary Ann Mesko, Joseph Veltre and his surviving wife, Mary Ann, Jimmy Veltre, Buzzy Veltre and his surviving wife, Hanna, John Veltre and Louie Veltre. Toni is also survived by Len's sister, Emily Moore and numerous nieces and nephews. Friends received 2-8 p.m. Sunday only at the **THOMAS L. NIED FUNERAL HOME, INC.**, 7441 Washington St., Swissvale. Mass of Christian Burial in Madonna Del Castello Roman Catholic Church, Monday morning at 10 a.m. www.niedfuneralhome.com.

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CLASSIFIED OBITUARIES

JEANINE H. HERSHEY



Jeanine H. Hershey passed away peacefully at the age of 91 in Folsom, LA on Saturday February 13, 2021, with her daughter by her side. She is survived by her daughter, Pamela Hershey; her brother, William Howell (Beverly); her nephew, Bob Howell (Claudia) and many other nieces and nephews. She was preceded in death by her husband, Richard E. Hershey, M.D.; her parents, Granville and Nelle Howell, and her great-nephew, Jordan Howell. Jeanine was born on Christmas Day in Gary, IN and moved to Pittsburgh, PA in 1944 where she lived until 2018, when she moved to Folsom, LA to be with her daughter. Jeanine was a wonderful athlete, playing varsity basketball at Mt. Lebanon High School where she was named outstanding female athlete. She went on to play varsity basketball at Purdue University. She returned to Pittsburgh to teach medical terminology and to become an assistant to Dr. Fred Brady until she met and married her husband. They enjoyed fifty-nine wonderful years of marriage and had one daughter. Jeanine was a past President of the Allegheny County and Pennsylvania Medical Society Auxiliaries. She was also a proud horse show mother, traveling to the shows to be with her daughter. She and Hersh never missed a Steelers or Panthers football game. They loved to bowl at the PAA, where Jeanine held the ladies high single and three game titles for years. She also loved playing Galleria Bridge and playing bridge at St. Clair Country Club. Most of all, she and Hersh enjoyed their many years of Thursday night dinners at "The Table". Jeanine will be interred at Southminster Presbyterian Church, 799 Washington Road, Pittsburgh, PA 15228. Memorial services will be scheduled in Pittsburgh after the Covid-19 pandemic. The family would like to thank Genie, Rick, Posh, Bebe, Rebecca, Pat and Gerri for their friendship and Aimee, with St. Tammany Hospice, for her tender care. In lieu of flowers, please make donations to either the Southminster Presbyterian Church, 799 Washington Road Pittsburgh, PA 15228 or St. Tammany Hospice, 725 West 11th Avenue, Covington, LA 70433. **E.J. FIELDING FUNERAL HOME**, 2260 West 21st Avenue, Covington, LA 70433, (985) 892-9222 has been entrusted with the arrangements. Please sign the E. J. Fielding online Guest Book at www.ejfieldingfh.com.

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WILLIAM "BILL" PAUL HOAK

William "Bill" Paul Hoak, 75, of Brooksville, Florida and husband of Laura F. Hoak, died Friday afternoon, February 19, 2021, at St. Joseph's Hospital in Savannah, Georgia. Survivors include his wife; his sisters, Pauline Regelski and her husband, Richard, and Susan Pipsosar and her husband, Robert; his brother, Kenneth Hoak and his wife, Lynn, and nieces, nephews, grand-nieces and grand-nephews. Please share your thoughts about Bill and his life at www.gamblefuneralservice.com.

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JEFFREY HOLST

On Thursday, February 18, 2021. Beloved husband of Barbara Holst. Beloved father of Seth Holst and Becca (Aaron) Hurwitz. Adored Pop Pop to Eli, Hannah, Jonah, Lucy and Gus. Second to his grandchildren, Jeffrey loved Penn State, the Navy, golf, Long Beach Island and Isla Del Sol. Services and Interment Private. Contributions may be made to Temple David, 4415 Northern Pike, Monroeville, PA 15146 or the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute at CMU, 5000 Forbes Avenue, Wean Hall 4614, Pittsburgh, PA 15213, (www.cmu.edu/osher). Arrangements entrusted to **RALPH SCHUGAR CHAPEL, INC.**, family owned and operated. www.schugar.com

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EVELYN K. HUNTER



Evelyn K. Hunter, 90 of Oakmont passed away on Thursday, February 18, 2021. Beloved wife of the late Thomas Hunter. Daughter of the late Peter Kuzma and Anna Bodnar Kuzma. Sister of the late Clem Kuzma. Evelyn was a devoted Catholic. Evelyn belonged to the Fox Chapel Field Club and the Fox Chapel Garden Club. She enjoyed traveling all over the world with her husband on his many business trips. She was a member of Sigma Sigma Sigma and worked as a secretary for US Steel for many years. Evelyn had a contagious laugh and smile. The family held a private viewing followed by burial in Calvary Catholic Cemetery, Pittsburgh. Arrangements entrusted to **BURKET-TRUBY FUNERAL HOME CREMATION & ALTERNATIVE SERVICES, INC.**, Oakmont.

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LOUIS N. "BIG LOU" JOHNSON



On Friday, February 12, 2021, Louis N. "Big Lou" Johnson, 75, of Rankin, PA. Father of Denise Barbour, Sheldon Johnson (Kitty), Nicole E. Dudley and Shavon Dudley; brother of JoAnn Rozier, Janice Price, Cynthia Ossie Johnson, Foster Johnson (Melba) and Gloria Riley. Also survived by 13 grandchildren, three great-grandchildren, a host of other family members and friends. Visitation Tuesday 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. on February 23, 2021, at Living Water Ministry, 736 Washington Avenue, Braddock, PA, where the funeral service will be held after visitation Tuesday 12 p.m. Interment Homewood Cemetery. Services of comfort entrusted to **WATTS MEMORIAL CHAPEL, INC.**, 808 Talbot Ave., Braddock, PA 15104, (412) 271-3880. **Social distancing, nose and mouth protection are required.**

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CHRISTINA "TINA" D. JONES



Age 71, of Scott Twp., formerly of Whitehall, lost her battle with a chronic gastrointestinal disease on Wednesday, February 17, 2021. Beloved daughter of Carl and Frances Resnaldo; beloved wife of 45 years to Richard P. Jones; loving mother of Angela Marie (Chris) Herisko, Amy Beth Jones and Allison Rose (Jereme) Vennare; loving Nanny of Dominic, Dante, Dino, Luca, Gia and Giuliana; beloved sister of Carol (Ray "Sonny") Ruffalo; loving aunt of Carla (Dean) Pastore, Gina Brown and Fr. Michael R. Ruffalo; cherished great-aunt of Bryanna Brown and Rocco Pastore. Tina had immeasurable love and faith in the Lord, her savior. She trusted in his goodness throughout her life until her dying moments. She possessed a zest for life that everyone around her enjoyed and admired. Everyone was welcome in her home and in her heart. She loved immensely and was a second mother to everyone she met. Her wisdom, guidance and compassion will be greatly missed. Family and friends welcome Sunday and Monday, 2-8 p.m. **WILLIAM SLATER II FUNERAL SERVICE**, (412-563-2800), 1650 Greentree Rd., Scott Twp. 15220. Due to Covid-19 requirements, everyone must wear a mask and practice social distancing. Funeral Mass in Our Lady of Hope Parish, St. Gabriel of the Sorrowful Virgin Church, Tuesday 1 p.m. Burial to follow in Jefferson Memorial Park. www.slaterfuneral.com

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NANCY CAROL DAYTON JONES



Nancy Carol Dayton Jones, 91, of Dunbar Twp. PA and a former resident of Mather, PA passed away unexpectedly in the Uniontown Hospital on February 18, 2021. Nancy was a caring and nurturing person to anyone who knew her including immediate and extended family members, caring for many in the later years of their lives. She will be missed by all who knew her, including her beloved Sammie (the cat). Nancy Carol was born in Pittsburgh, PA, on November 18, 1929, to the late Mildred Shipley Shultz and was raised by her adopted, loving mother and father, Clell and Cora Work Dayton. She was a graduate of Uniontown High School, Class of 1947 where she was a cheerleader. She graduated from Allegheny General Hospital School of Nursing in 1950 as a Registered Nurse and in 1973 she received a Bachelor's Degree in Nursing from California University of PA. Her career in nursing began at Greene County Memorial Hospital from 1950-1952 and was a school nurse at Mapletown High School from 1952-1955. She continued to work part-time at Uniontown Hospital and as a private duty nurse in Connellsville State Hospital while she and Allen started their family. She was a school nurse in the Connellsville Area Schools working at both Dunbar Township Elementary and Junior High West until her retirement in 1993 after 25 years of service. She was the Leader of Girl Scout Troop 3102 at Monarch School and a member of Beta Sigma Phi Sorority. She loved sports and was a huge Pittsburgh Pirates fan. She volunteered at the United Way of Westmoreland County Access Abilities Program for many years. She was an active member of the Great Bethel Baptist Church, Uniontown, Pa. where she served and shared her time and many talents, and she was a member of the Triangle School Class. She loved playing cards (500 Bid) with several clubs in the area and at home. She was a member of the Red Hatters. She was a member of the Connellsville Area Education Association (CAEA), Pennsylvania State Education Association (PSEA) and the National Education Association (NEA) and the Fayette County and Pennsylvania Retired Teachers Association. She was an active member of the Pennsylvania Veterans of Foreign Wars Auxiliary, where she was a past state president and member of the 23rd District Auxiliary where she served as a past president and past secretary. She was also an active member of the VFW Post 21 Auxiliary in Connellsville. She is survived by her loving husband Allen Q. Jones. Allen and Nancy celebrated their 70th wedding anniversary on November 21, 2020. She is also survived by her two children, Marcia Ann (Jones) Knight and her husband, Eric of Huntersville, North Carolina and her son, Charles Quentin Jones and his wife, Margery of Cranston, Rhode Island; two granddaughters, Melissa Ashley Jones of New Jersey and Michaela Amy (Jones) Cromartie and her husband Vincent of Rhode Island and one great-granddaughter, Amiyah Rose Cromartie. She was predeceased by her step-brother, Raymond Dayton and his wife, Sara Kramer Dayton and their son, Robert; her brother, Frank J. Shultz and his wife, Sarah and a special uncle, Charles Shipley. Family and friends will be received from 3-7 p.m. Sunday in the **BROOKS FUNERAL HOME, INC.**, 111 E. Green St., Connellsville, PA where services will be held on Monday at 11:00 a.m. with Rev. Doug Baker officiating. Interment will follow in the Sylvan Heights Cemetery. Members of the 23rd District Auxiliary will conduct a memorial service on Sunday at 4:00 p.m. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions are suggested to St. Jude's Children's Research Hospital, 262 Danny Thomas Place, Memphis TN 38105 in memory of Nancy Carol Dayton Jones. To offer a condolence or remembrance please visit www.brooksfuneralhomes.com.

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MICHAEL G. KELLAR

Michael Kellar, 68, originally from Wintersville, OH, died Feb. 11, 2021, at his home in Myrtle Beach, SC. Michael was preceded in death by his father, Thomas Kellar of Wintersville, OH. He is survived by his mother, Patricia Kellar and sister, Sharon Kellar both of Carnegie, PA, aunt and uncle, Jerry and Janet DeMarinis of Oberlin OH. Michael was an avid reader and achieved his lifelong dream of having some of his own stories published. There will be no local services at this time.

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RICHARD B. KELSON

Age 74, passed away on Saturday, February 13, 2021, in New York City. Rick was born on November 20, 1946, in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania to the late Jack "Kush" and Betty Kelson. He spent his early years in the apartment above Kelson's Restaurant in the Hill District of Pittsburgh, until his family moved to the South Hills of Pittsburgh in the 1950's. After graduating from Chartiers Valley High School in 1964, he matriculated to the University of Pennsylvania and graduated from Penn in 1968. Rick then served in the U.S. Army Reserves and attended law school at the University of Pittsburgh. Following law school, he clerked for Judge Harry Kramer in the Commonwealth Court of Pennsylvania. After completing his clerkship, Rick began his career as an attorney at ALCOA, Inc. in Pittsburgh, PA. He had an illustrious career at ALCOA and thrived in their corporate environment. After many years in the legal department, he was eventually handpicked by ALCOA's CEO and future Treasury Secretary, Paul O'Neill, to lead ALCOA's Environment, Health and Safety initiatives in the 1990s. In 1994, Mr. Kelson was asked to lead ALCOA's legal department, adding the title of General Counsel. In 1997, Mr. Kelson was asked to take on yet another challenge as ALCOA's Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer, a position in which he served for nearly a decade, retiring in 2006 as Chairman's Counsel. In 2000, CFO Magazine awarded Mr. Kelson two of its 11 prestigious global CFO Excellence Awards. In 2006, he was personally recognized by the Hackett Group for World Class Finance; and, in 2004 and 2005, Institutional Investor magazine named him "Best CFO in Metals and Mining." He also served as an Operating Advisor to a private equity fund manager from 2006 through 2010. Inspired by his experience in private equity, Mr. Kelson started ServCo, LLC., using his 30 years in supply chain management to form a company that helps businesses with strategic sourcing and procurement. Mr. Kelson was the current Chairman of the Board of Ingevity, Inc., where he also served as interim CEO and President during a leadership transition in 2020. Mr. Kelson was also a member of the board of directors of Commercial Metals Corporation, where he served as lead director from 2014-2019, and a member of the board of Ecovative Design LLC. He previously served on the boards of directors of PNC Financial Services Group, Inc. (2002-2020), MeadWestvaco Corporation, formerly Westvaco (2001-2015), Anadigics, Inc. (2015-2016), and Lighting Science Group Corporation (2007-2010). He was a member of the Board of Trustees at Carnegie Mellon University from 2000 to 2006 and served on the board of the University of Pittsburgh Law School Board of Visitors since 2000. Mr. Kelson was a member of the Board of Directors for the non-profit KaBOOM, Inc. from 2008 until 2014, where he served as Chairperson of the Board for the majority of his term. He met his wife Ellen on the first day of their freshman orientation at the University of Pennsylvania. They married in 1969 at the Carlyle Hotel in New York City, and were married for nearly 52 years. Ellen and Rick raised their three children in Mount Lebanon, PA. In 2000, Rick and Ellen relocated to New York City. They loved to travel the world and explore New York City's art galleries and antique shows. After he moved to New York, Rick remained an avid Pittsburgh sports fan and was also enthusiastic about race horses. Rick was passionate about his wife, children, and grandchildren, and enjoyed spending extended time with the full family whether at home or on vacation. He was a loving husband, father, grandfather, brother, uncle, and father figure, as well as mentor, business leader and friend to many. He is survived by his wife, Ellen S. Kelson; sister, Sharon Kelson Block (Lawrence Block); children, Carolyn Kelson (and Jason Janicki), Melinda "Mindy" Kelson O'Connor (and Ted O'Connor), and Adam Kelson (and Carly Wilson); grandchildren, Dashiell, Lev and Iris Janicki, Danny and Georgia O'Connor, Harrison and Lila Kelson, and Lyle Schimizzi. There will be a full Memorial Celebration of his life at a time in the near future when it is safe to gather. In lieu of flowers, donations may be sent to: Repair the World (<https://bit.ly/InMemoryOfRickKelson>), City Meals (<https://www.citymeals.org>), or Penn Center for Research on Coronavirus (<https://giving.apps.upenn.edu/fund?program=MED&fund=630364>).

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EVA KIRK



On Friday, February 19, 2021, of Brentwood. Wife of the late John "Duffy" Kirk. Loving mother of Jack (Diane) Kirk, Sharon (Brian) McCarthy and Eileen Kirk. Also survived by four grandchildren: John Kirk, Nicole (David) Castillo, Megan (Jamie) Langevin and Katie McCarthy, and four great-grandchildren: Anna, Eva, and Austin Castillo, and Lucy Langevin. Friends received at the **JOHN J. GMITER FUNERAL HOME, LTD.**, 119 South 15th Street, South Side on Thursday, February 25, 2021, from 2-8 p.m. Mass of Christian Burial on Friday, February 26, 2021, at a time and place to be determined.

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JOHN S. KLECHA



John S. Klecha, age 82, of Shaler Twp., on Wednesday, February 17, 2021. Beloved husband of Elizabeth Klecha; loving father of John S. (Carole) Klecha, Jr. and Jackie Jordan; proud grandfather of Carl, Carla, John III, Alek, Stephanie, and Nikki; also survived by six great-grandchildren. John was a U.S. Army veteran and retired from HJ Heinz Company. Friends will be received on Tuesday from 2 to 4 and 6 to 8 PM at the **BOCK FUNERAL HOME, LTD.**, 1500 Mt. Royal Blvd., Glenshaw. A Funeral Mass will be celebrated in St. Matthew Parish, All Saints Church, Etna, on Wednesday at 10 AM. Donations may be sent to the American Heart Association.

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HOLLY JEAN KRAFT



Holly Jean Kraft of Nokomis, Florida, formerly of Chantilly, Virginia, passed away on February 5, 2021. Born in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania on December 28, 1945, raised in a loving foster home by Kenneth and Freda Hanks. She went on to graduate from West Allegheny Senior High School in 1963. In 1964, Holly graduated from Mason Felix Beauty Academy. After moving to Northern Virginia, Holly worked for the INOVA Health System spanning 15 years. Holly retired to Florida in 1996. During those years Holly continued in healthcare and went on to be a personal companion for elderly patients. Holly is survived by her beloved daughter Noel Kraft Still of Warrenton Virginia. She also leaves behind her two brothers, Kenneth Hayward of White Oak Pennsylvania and Jack Hayward of Port Charlotte, Florida. As well as her foster sister, Suzanne Hanks Wilson of Rochester, Michigan and previous spouse, Daniel Kraft of Warrenton, Virginia. She is predeceased by her mother, Virginia Darrah of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, her father, Norman Hayward of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, as well as by foster parents, Kenneth and Freda Hanks of Oakdale, Pennsylvania. There will be no services held at this time. The family asks that you consider making a donation in honor of Holly to the Tidewell Hospice Foundation. Services under the care of **FARLEY FUNERAL HOME** in Venice Florida. Online condolences can be made at www.farleyfuneralhome.com.

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GERALDINE K. "GERRI" KRUGLAK



Age 71, of Penn Hills, passed away on Tuesday, February 16, 2021. Beloved wife for 46 years of Richard A. Kruglak. Loving mother of Lisa (James) Endler, Deborah (Daniel) Gilman, and Cynthia (Louis) Simpson. Grandmother of Sean, Zachary, Chester, Emma, Finnegan, and Logan. Sister of Edward Ricketts. Gerri was a graduate of the University of Pittsburgh and had a 20-year career with Carnegie Mellon University as the Librarian and mentor to many students. She was a member of Holy Family Parish (St. Joseph Catholic Church, Verona). Gerri was an avid reader, a love she passed on to her children. She enjoyed traveling, especially to the beach, toes in the sand surrounded by her daughters and grandchildren. The family held a Viewing and Blessing Service at **BURKET-TRUBY FUNERAL HOME CREMATION & ALTERNATIVE SERVICES INC.**, Oakmont. In memory of Gerri, please consider donating to St. Jude Children's Research Hospital at https://fundraising.stjude.org/site/TR/GiftFunds/GiftFunds?px=6927363&pg=personal&fr_id=39300

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PENELOPE C. LAWRENCE

Caterer, Cooking Instructor, Entrepreneur

Penelope C. ("Penny") Lawrence, a retired Caterer, Cooking Instructor and Entrepreneur died on Saturday, February 20, 2021, in Venice, Florida. She was 85. Penny resided in the Greater Pittsburgh, PA area and Grove City, PA for 75 years before moving to Venice, FL in 2011. Mrs. Lawrence, the daughter of the late Nicholas P. and Rose Chronis, was born in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, where she was educated in the Pittsburgh Public School system before attending the Pennsylvania College for Women (PCW) - (now Chatham University) - to study dietetics. A devoted mother, she invested her early years in raising her children and seeing to their education. After her children matured, Penny and her business partner, opened "Collage at Willow Acres" a unique shoppe in Grove City; it specialized in housewares, kitchen supplies and cooking lessons taught by Penny. Penny's love of cooking combined with her experience at "Collage," and her extensive international travel broadened her cooking repertoire. Penny was welcomed at cooking schools wherever she traveled... both domestically and internationally. She enjoyed being a student as well as an instructor as she continued her quest to expand her knowledge of creating fine foods. Penny's favorite venue for which she became well-known; was in her hometown as one of the featured television cooking instructors on Pittsburgh's WQED. Understandably, Penny's talents led to many invitations by students and fans who requested her support in their own kitchens. Eventually, this led to Penny developing a successful catering business that served the Greater Pittsburgh Area. She named it "Delicious Decisions" and many a function was successful thanks to Penny's flair for delicious food from hors d'oeuvres, main dishes to desserts along with wonderfully paired beverages. In addition to her professional activities, Mrs. Lawrence was an avid traveler whose passports revealed an interest in the art and cultures of countries around the globe. She collected art in her travels and her home always provided insights into her keen interest in the creative arts. Mrs. Lawrence's survivors include: her son Peter N. Katsafanas Jr. (Jodi) of Austin, TX; son Nicholas S. Katsafanas (Maria) of Pittsburgh, PA; daughter Lisa K. Atwell (James) of Venice, FL; grandchildren, Peter N. Katsafanas III, Alexis M. Katsafanas; Ana N. Katsafanas; Nico S. Katsafanas; James T. Atwell; Gabriel R. Atwell; a brother, Lt. Colonel Nicholas N. Chronis (Diane) and numerous nieces, nephews, and cousins. She was predeceased by her brother, Peter N. Chronis of Pittsburgh, PA., and her sister, Marie N. Esihos also of Pittsburgh, PA. Additionally, she was predeceased by her husbands, Peter N. Katsafanas of Pittsburgh, PA, John W. Lawrence, of Grove City, PA. The immediate family will have an Eastern Orthodox service in Venice, FL followed by a Pittsburgh area service and burial sometime this spring. In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to the Greater Pittsburgh Community Food Bank. Penny was always feeding people, and the family feels would be a fitting gesture in her honor.

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CLASSIFIED OBITUARIES

ROBERT ALAN LAZEAR



Age 74, died from a rare form of cancer on February 14, 2021. He is survived by his loving sisters, Mary Jo Lazear (Richard Karp) of San Francisco, CA, and Nancy Lazear (Patrick Coyne) of Washington, DC. He is also survived by his beloved nieces, Megan Coyne (Matthew Plummer) and Rachel Coyne and his beloved nephew, Peter Coyne. In his last years, he delighted in his grand-nephew, Declan Joseph

Plummer. He was preceded in death by his parents, Manuel and Sara (Green) Lazear. Robbie was a lifelong resident of Pittsburgh and loved the city. He was a graduate of Taylor Alderdice High School, and he received his Bachelor's Degree from the University of Pittsburgh and a Masters in Education from Duquesne University. Robbie worked for many years for a variety of organizations, including Karma House, the Women's Center and Shelter of Greater Pittsburgh, Next Big Thing Productions, and the Disability Division of the Social Security Administration. Robbie also served as a Judge of Elections in his beloved neighborhood of Shadyside. He never missed an election day at the polls in over 25 years. Robbie was an avid reader and loved all kinds of music, movies, symphony, and opera. He was an excellent poker player and dancer, a political junkie, and a Starbucks regular. He never missed watching the news, Pardon the Interruption or Jeopardy. Robbie was a true sports lover. He often said there was nothing like a day at the ballpark. During the last game of the 1960 World Series, he ran all the way from his home in Squirrel Hill to Forbes Field just in time to see Bill Mazerowski hit his historic home run. He never forgot that experience. Robbie enjoyed the company of a wide circle of friends with whom he kept in close touch. They all benefited from his kindness, generosity, selflessness, and compassion. He was truly interested in and loved people. Robbie was a man of great wit and intelligence, and he had an incredible sense of humor. He loved nothing better than to make people smile and laugh, illustrated by his huge repertoire of jokes and his eagerly anticipated yearly holiday card sent to over 300 family and friends all over the world. Robbie wanted to offer special thanks to Jay Reifer and Barbara Villa and Molly Youngling, all of whom provided him a home and cared for him during his illness. He was especially grateful to his wonderful team of caregivers, led by Linda Boston. Linda said it was fitting for Robbie to pass away on Valentine's Day because he loved and was loved by so many. He will be remembered as a wonderful and loving brother, uncle, and friend. Services and Interment were Private. A memorial gathering will be planned when COVID restrictions are lifted. Robbie requested that donations in his memory be made to the Greater Pittsburgh Food Bank or the Women's Center and Shelter of Greater Pittsburgh. Arrangements entrusted to **RALPH SCHUGAR CHAPEL, INC.**, family owned and operated. www.schugar.com
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RICHARD "RICK" FRANCIS MANCUSO, JR.



Age 72, of Pittsburgh, PA, peacefully passed away on Wednesday, February 17, 2021, surrounded by loved ones. Rick was born on July 8, 1948, to the late Richard and Rita (Nowicki) Mancuso, in Pittsburgh. Beloved and devoted husband of almost 37 years to Linda (Coyne) Mancuso. Loving father of Erin (Michael) Hart; and adoring grandad to Logan and Peyton. Also survived by loving siblings, Judy (Richard)

Bonidie, Rita (Jim) Hazlett, and Lori (Alan) Sachs; and many devoted nieces, nephews and Godchildren. Rick is also survived by mother-in-law, Florence Coyne; sisters and brothers-in-law, Mary Anne Coyne, Eileen (Chuck) Mares, Robert (Margaret) Coyne, Sally Coyne (Ed Malecki), Margie Coyne and Judy (John) Williams. Rick graduated from South Hills Catholic High School in 1966. He had a long career in the printing industry that he loved and retired as a 911 dispatcher. Rick had a great love of history, which he shared with his grandson. He was an enthusiastic card player and was extremely proud of his ethnic heritage. He was a lifelong resident of Beechview and was affectionately referred to as the "Mayor of Beechview" due to his gift of gab and extensive network of family, friends, and acquaintances. Rick was a youth football coach for the Beechview Bulls for his nephews and many others. He was an avid golfer, a lifelong Steelers fan and loved his annual family beach vacations, even though he rarely actually went to the beach. Friends received on Monday, February 22nd from 2 - 4 p.m. and 6 - 8 p.m. at **BRUSCO-NAPIER FUNERAL SERVICE, LTD.**, 2201 Benson Ave., Pgh., PA 15216. A Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated on Tuesday at 11 a.m. at St. Teresa of Kolkata Parish - St. Catherine of Siena Church, 1810 Belasco Ave., Pgh., PA 15216. Inurnment private. EVERYONE PLEASE MEET AT CHURCH. Donations in Rick's memory may be made to the Greater Pittsburgh Community Food Bank, 1 N. Linden Street, Duquesne, PA 15110. www.pittsburghfoodbank.org. To add a tribute or memory of Rick, please visit our website. www.brusco-napierfuneralhome.com.
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LENA FRANCES (CECCHINE) MIGNOGNA



On Wednesday, February 17, 2021, at the age of 100, formerly of Pitcairn. Wife of the late Nick Mignogna; loving mother of Florence (Jack) Craig and Nick (Jan) Mignogna; grandmother of Dana (David) Panucci, John, Jr. (Elizabeth) Craig, Anita Snipes and Bonnie Moryak; also survived by eight great-grandchildren and one great-great-granddaughter. She was the fourth of six children to Emilio and Mary Cecchine.

Arrangements have been entrusted to the **SZAFRANSKI-EBERLEIN FUNERAL HOME, INC.**, where family and friends will be received on Tuesday morning from 9:30 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. at 101 Third St., Carnegie, Mass of Christian Burial in St. Raphael the Archangel Parish, St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Church on Tuesday at 11 a.m. In order to be compliant with our state guidelines, masks must be worn and social distancing be maintained for visitation, Mass and Burial. Lena will be entombed in Good Shepherd Cemetery, Monroeville, PA. In lieu of flowers, contributions may be made to the St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Food Bank, 330 Third Ave., Carnegie, PA 15106.
www.szafanski-eberleinfuneralhome.com
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ROBERT TOLL NORMAN

1934 - 2021



Robert "Bob" Norman passed away on Monday, February 15. He was 86. Bob Norman grew up in central California, then studied urban planning at Stanford and Harvard. He served as a Foreign Service officer in Nepal and India, later specializing in South Asian cities. In 1967 he settled his family of five in Pittsburgh. He then taught for 30 years at the University of Pittsburgh's Graduate School for Public

and International Affairs. Dr. Norman authored many studies on the governance and planning of the world's cities. He helped the field of urban studies develop a more global and humanitarian perspective. Bob was beloved by graduate students from developing nations, many of whom went on to apply their expertise to improve conditions throughout Asia and the Middle East. In 1990, Dr. Norman was elected Pennsylvania President of the American Association of University Professors, representing faculty from more than 100 colleges and universities in Pennsylvania. Bob retired in 1997 and taught himself woodworking. He'd spend months crafting beautiful and functional furniture for family and friends, and invariably gave it away. Bob Norman loved Pittsburgh, his adopted city. He studied the city's history and poured over maps of its quirky neighborhoods. He walked hundreds of miles on city streets, climbing hillside stairs, crossing bridges, and sampling the city's spectacular riverside trails. In retirement, he continued this practice with the Pittsburgh Ramblers. His wife, Dr. Liane Ellison Norman, taught English and writing at Chatham College and the University of Pittsburgh, founded the Pittsburgh Peace Institute, and assisted in the founding of Chatham Baroque, of which their youngest daughter, the late Emily Davidson, was an original member. All three of their children, Andrew, Marie and Emily, returned to Pittsburgh after studying out of state. Norman is survived by his wife, Liane; his son, Andrew, and daughter-in-law, Heidi; his daughter, Marie, and son-in-law, Matthew; and five grandchildren, Reece and Kai Norman, Maya and Dev Weiss, and Vincent Riley Davidson.
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MICHAEL JOHN MATONE



Michael John Matone, 66, formerly of Bethel Park and Baldwin Borough, passed away peacefully on February 13, 2021, after a long battle against early-onset dementia.

A graduate from the University of Pittsburgh where he met and married his devoted wife of 42 years, Kristine Gress; loving father of Amanda Matone Ruszczak (Jeff), Dr. Emily Matone, and Max Matone; treasured "Pop" to Zachary and Rebecca Ruszczak. Preceded in death by mother, Mary Slezak (Muza, Matone) and father, Michael A. Matone. Survived by sisters, Nancy Cooper (Matone, the late Randy), Patricia Timm (Slezak, Terry), brother Joseph Slezak (Jacquelyn); sisters, Michelle Baich (Slezak, Dan), and Maryanne Garda (Slezak, Ron); aunts Carol Campbell (Muza, Al), Dorothy Potash, uncle Donald McFarland (late Theresa); close friend, Dan Sweeney; numerous cousins, nieces, and nephews. A visionary consultant and software engineer, his software, Persuasion Systems, collated and analyzed the history of pricings for typesets, graphics, etc. that enabled over half the advertising agencies in Pittsburgh to standardize and better estimate ad costs. As his focus shifted to improving healthcare within his wheelchair, he counseled and created firewalls that allowed hospitals and health systems to reach HIPAA compliance; he introduced mobile charting to the Pittsburgh region as a way to streamline orders, care, and treatment for visiting/home care nurses; and he pioneered learning modules and support tools specifically designed for preventing pressure ulcers. Michael enjoyed coaching his kids in baseball and travel soccer, listening to classical music and Frank Sinatra, playing chess as well as the piano for an audience. He loved babies, bike riding, bowling, and being well-groomed. He loved traveling to Europe and teaching his kids about their Italian heritage. He was most proud of his loving family... "to the world he was one, to his family he was the world." Anyone who knew Michael, knew he never took health for granted and firmly trusted science and medicine. For the health and safety of all, a memorial will be held at a later date and a virtual memorial has been created in his honor at GatheringUs.com for those who would like to offer tribute and share memories about Michael. In lieu of flowers, the family wishes trees be planted in Michael's name through arborday.org. Arrangements have been made with **PITTSBURGH CREMATION AND FUNERAL CARE** with interment at Jefferson Memorial Mausoleum.
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THERESA "TERRY" (BADOLATO) MASTANDREA



Theresa "Terry" (Badolato) Mastandrea, of Penn Hills, passed peacefully Monday, February 15, 2021. She was the wife of the late Victor J. Mastandrea; loving mother of Victor J. Mastandrea II, of North Hills, Lisa Mastandrea, of O'Hara, and Christine Beattie and her husband, Brian, of Fox Chapel; dear grammie of Victor, III, Katherine and Natalie; and sister of Felicia "Lee" Reuss, of Oakmont. Terry began her

career at Pittsburgh Outdoor Advertising, where she met her husband, Vic, a World War II veteran. She was a wonderful wife and homemaker, and provided unconditional love to her children. Once her grandchildren were born, she was also a constant presence in their lives attending all birthdays/graduations, sporting events or performances; she will still be watching to see what the next chapter brings for each one of them. Terry worked for more than 20 years at Kamin Realty Company, where she managed the maintenance of commercial properties. As Dan Kamin, president of Kamin Realty Company said, "Regardless of the pressure of an expanding operation with numerous issues to be dealt with, Terry always was fun to be around, always smiling and willing to help anyone she could. We maintained contact with her the 10 years or so after she reluctantly retired." Terry was a selfless woman whose brilliant smile and joyful soul will be forever missed by all who knew and loved her. Mass of Christian Burial was held at 11 a.m. this past Wednesday in the Word of God Roman Catholic Church. Arrangements were entrusted to the **THOMAS L. NIED FUNERAL HOME INC.**, 7441 Washington St., Swissvale. Memorial contributions can be made to The Watson Institute, 301 Camp Meeting Road, Sewickley, PA 15143.
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NICHOLAS TYNER PACKARD



On February 15, Nicholas Tyner Packard passed away at the age of 69, in Naples, Florida. Born on August 19, 1951, in Torrington, Connecticut, he lived with his family in Ben Avon, PA, graduating from Avonworth and the University of Pittsburgh where he earned his BA in Philosophy and an MA in International Affairs. After graduation, Nick as he was known to his family, joined the Peace Corps which

led him to his life's work of educating and healing. Although his work took him away from Pittsburgh, Nick remained throughout his life a loyal Pitt and Pirate fan. Nick was predeceased by his parents, Richard and Patricia Packard and is survived by his three siblings and their families; his brothers, Peter Townsend (Marilyn) Nevillewood, PA and Dr. Andrew Packard (Gina) Snohomish, WA, and his sister, Mary Cotton Sullivan (David) of Naples, FL who was his constant caregiver this past year while he courageously battled prostate cancer. He is also survived by his devoted friend, Yi-Ching Tung of Bangkok, Thailand.
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STEPHEN M. "STEVIE" MATISZ

Age 61, of Sharpsburg, formerly of Avalon, passed away peacefully on Tuesday, February 16, 2021 at Good Samaritan Hospice. Steve was an 80's rock n' roll kind of guy. He was known for his great sense of humor and always saw an opportunity to make a joke to brighten your day. He was always present in the moment, people watching, absorbing the life and people around him. Having Steve be a part of your life was an unexpected joy that only few had the privilege to experience. A warm thank you to all of Steve's friends and the people around him throughout his life. Friends will be received on Wednesday from 3 to 7 PM at the **BOCK FUNERAL HOME, LTD.**, 1500 Mt. Royal Blvd., Glenshaw, where a Blessing Service will be held at 6:30 PM.
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MARLENE FELICIA MINCIN



On Thursday, February 11, 2021, Marlene Felicia Mincin, mother of three sons (David, Mark and Roy), passed away peacefully in her sleep at the age of 86 on Bainbridge Island, Washington. Marlene was born on October 22, 1934 in Pittsburgh. She married David Mincin on September 7, 1957. Her husband, David, died on January 15, 2018. Upon his death, Marlene moved from McMurray, Pennsylvania to

Seattle, Washington to be with her son's, grandchildren (Katie, Emily, and Haley), and her daughter-in-law Lauren. Where to start with Marlene's passions and the things she loved? Most importantly, she loved her immediate and large extended family, which meant everything to her. She loved her lifelong friends and neighbors in Pittsburgh and missed them deeply when she moved to Seattle. She loved her many friends at Center Presbyterian Church. She loved gardening and being outside in the summer; she grew beautiful flowers that surrounded the family's McMurry home for 60 years. And, she absolutely loved (loved) cooking and baking. There was no better. Her kitchen was the center of family life up until her death. The day before she passed away, she was still printing new recipes to try out from her iPad. Her homemade ravioli and gnocci were two of many favorite dishes of family and friends. We are fortunate that Marlene taught her grandchildren, sons and daughter-in-law to make many of her most special Italian recipes so they can be passed on to future generations. She will be greatly missed. Donations can be made to the Issaquah Food and Clothing Bank (<https://issaquahfoodbank.org>). A Burial Service will be held for immediate family in Seattle on February 22nd.
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ALLEN MENDLOWITZ

Age 91, of Monroeville, formerly of Wilkins Township, peacefully passed at home Thursday, February 18, 2021. He was born April 4, 1929, in Luzerne County. In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by his wife Harriet (Talens) and their infant son Benjamin, as well as his two brothers Sidney Mendlowitz and Paul Mendlowitz. He is survived by his daughter Ann Hardy and her husband Steve, his son David Mendlowitz and his wife Ann, granddaughter Erin Hardy and grandsons Max Hardy, Andrew Mendlowitz, Patrick Mendlowitz and Shane Mendlowitz. Allen served in the Army during the Korean War earning a Combat Infantry Badge, United Nations Service Medal and Korea Service Medal with Bronze Service Star. After his service he settled in Pittsburgh and married Harriet Talens. His career included positions from retail sales, wholesale sales to store operator on the Boardwalk in Atlantic City. Due to the ongoing pandemic, there will be no visitation. Donations may be made to the Jewish Federation of Pittsburgh or any other organization dedicated to helping the victims of hate crimes. Professional Services by **D'ALESSANDRO FUNERAL HOME & CREMATORY LTD.**, Lawrenceville
www.dallessandrofhd.com
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MARY B. (BOSSOLA) PELINO



Affectionately known as Big Mar, our mother graced this earth for over 99 years. Born in Keystone Shaft, PA in 1921 to immigrant Italian parents, she had dreams of being a chemist. However, financial hardships and WW II derailed that plan. After the war, she met our father, Tony, on a blind date, and following a whirlwind romance, she achieved her second goal, becoming a wife and

eventual mother of five. And what an amazing mom she was. She had a marvelous sense of humor. (You kind of have to with five kids.) When one of our friends would greet her with "Hail Mary, mother of five!", she would laugh and lovingly call them a "rotten kid." We hit the jackpot in the mom department. Our home was filled with love, laughter, incredible aromas emanating from the kitchen, friends running in and out, and some occasional primo Italian yelling. (I mean, five kids, right. How could she not yell.) Her home was an open door. She welcomed all with a beaming smile, a warm embrace, and a fresh pot of coffee. Mary was a true people person. She could talk to anyone. She was everyone's mom, grandma, therapist. When she would sit down in a mall, or wherever, to rest while we ran off to continue shopping, upon our return, there was always someone sitting next to her telling her their life story. Always. Most of all, she loved her family and friends with every fiber of her being. She never forgot a birthday or anniversary. Sending cards and notes was her jam. Our mother was a shiny gem whose sparkle was brilliant. She was always positive, rarely down. She laughed easily and fully. She was warm, loving, thoughtful, kind, impish, spirited, and full of life. Her lightness of being touched all who knew her. She was an inspiration on how to age with the perfect combination of grace, elegance, and irreverence. We were blessed to have her vibrant light with us for so long. Mary was preceded in death by her husband, Anthony V. Pelino; and her sisters, Elsie B. Little and Enes B. Edwards. She is survived by her children, Laura (David) Nial, Vicki (Tony) Caldart, Toni (the late Art) Weber, Anthony "Buddy" (Leslie) Pelino and Marie (George) Popichak; and grandchildren, Zach (Kelly) Nial, Willie (Ruth) Joback, Regi (Nik) Caldart, Jaimie Pelino, Mike Pelino, and Jon Caldart. A private Family Viewing is planned for Saturday at **JOHN F. SLATER FUNERAL HOME, INC.**, 412-881-4100, 4201 Brownsville Road, Brentwood 15227. Mary loved children, so in lieu of flowers, please consider a donation to St. Jude Children's Research Hospital, 501 St. Jude Place, Memphis, TN 38105. Please send condolences to www.johnslater.com.
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CLASSIFIED OBITUARIES

STANISLAV J. PAUTLER, MD



Stanislav J. Pautler, MD, of Upper St. Clair, died February 15, 2021 at the age of 91. Beloved father to two daughters, Romana Pautler Kerr, DMD and Simona V. Pautler, MD; he is also survived by eight grandchildren, Conrad Kerr, Carson Kerr, Collin Kerr, Celena Kerr, Liam Gibbons, Veronica Gibbons, Daniela Gibbons, and Ronan Gibbons. He was preceded in death by his wife of 50 years, Milena,

who passed in 2005. Dr. Pautler was born October 27, 1929, in Prague, Czechoslovakia. He graduated from Charles University, Prague, where he obtained his medical degree in 1953. After two years in the Czech military, and 10 years of research, Dr. Pautler received his PhD in 1963. Two years later he was visiting professor of Anesthesiology at the University of Pittsburgh. He and his young family then defected from Czechoslovakia in 1968, and from 1969 to 1979 he was an associate professor of Anesthesiology at the University of Pittsburgh's Presbyterian Hospital. He then became director of the Anesthesia Department at St. Francis Hospital from 1979-1996. Dr. Pautler was an avid reader and gardener who enjoyed jazz music and fine cuisine. Due to COVID concerns, a Private Family Memorial will be held at a later date. The family would like to thank the staff at the Grand Residence of Upper St. Clair and all of Dr. Pautler's friends and neighbors from the USC senior citizens group for their care and support.

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CHARLES G. PRENN



At home surrounded with love and family on February 17, 2021, Charles G. Prenn, age 89, of Franklin Park. Beloved husband for 71 years of Carol E. (Sauers) Prenn; father of Charles W. (Roberta) Prenn of Zelienople, Maureen (Michael O'Connor) Prenn of NJ, Michael (Theresa) Prenn of ID, and Laurie (Greg) Cannella of Harmony; grandfather of Travis, Elijah, Jeremiah, Maria, Emily, Christina, and Abby; also survived by five great-grandchildren and many nieces and nephews. Friends received Monday 1-3 and 6-8 p.m. at **SIMONS FUNERAL HOME, INC.**, 7720 Perry Hwy., Pgh., PA 15237 where a memorial service will be held on Tuesday at 1 p.m. In lieu of flowers, contributions may be made to Beechwood Farms, 614 Dorseyville Rd., Pgh., PA 15238, or The Sauers Family Foundation via the Pittsburgh Foundation, Five PPG Place Suite 250, Pgh., PA 15222. Chuck's tree surgery skills were legendary, as was his ruggedness, but more than anything Chuck was known for his positive outlook and good cheer. Chuck "the tree man" could glean joy from a majestic oak, a bird, or just sitting in his backyard. He found beauty and joy in the commonplace, the simplest of things. Many will miss him, his funny stories and songs. For more about Chuck, see the extended obituary at simonsfuneralhome.com.

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FREDERICK L. PRODENTE



Frederick L. Prodente, age 76, of Penn Hills, formerly of Lawrenceville, died peacefully, at his home, surrounded by his family, on Thursday, February 18, 2021. Son of late Frederick W. and Katherine (Scolaro) Prodente; beloved husband of Laura (Shoemaker) Prodente; loving father of Tony (Sue) Prodente, the late Christine (Todd) Rosignoli, Angela (Michael) Jackson, Joshua (Cierra) Prodente and Jordan (Jessica) Prodente; loving grandfather of Abigail, AJ, Haiden, Caleb, Bentley and Greyson; beloved brother of Mary (Vito) Alioto and Theresa (late Regis) Balzer. Adored uncle of many nieces and nephews. Fred was a Steel Mill worker for 32 years for LTV Steel and US Steel. Fred fought long and hard with many ailments and recently diagnosed with leukemia, his last wish was to spend his remaining time with his family. He was surrounded by his wife and children, as he passed away peacefully. Friends and family will be received 2 to 7 p.m. Tuesday at **MAURICE L. KNEE, LTD. FUNERAL HOME**, 7663 Saltsburg Rd., (across from S & T Bank) Plum, PA 15239. Mass of Christian Burial will be on Wednesday at 11 a.m. at St. John the Baptist R. C. Church of Holy Family Parish. Interment will follow in Plum Creek Cemetery.

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BEVERLY P. RAIDERS



Of Castle Shannon, peacefully on Friday, February 19, 2021. Wife of the late Arthur L.; daughter of the late John and Josephine Zdobinski; beloved mother of Janet L. (Jack) Feeney, Sharon L. (Tim) Flaherty, and Lawrence A. (Linda Carroll) Raiders; sister of Lawrence Zdobinski, Richard Zdobinski, Carol Novak, and the late John Zdobinski and Lorraine Schumacher; grandmother "MiMi" of Jack and Justin Feeney, Todd Jr. and Larissa Strupek. Family and friends will be received at **THE FRANK F. DEBOR FUNERAL HOME & CREMATION SERVICES, INC.**, 1065 Brookline Blvd., 412-561-0380 Tuesday only 2-4 and 6-8 p.m. Mass of Christian Burial Wednesday at 10 a.m. in St. Winifred Church. Due to the pandemic, masks and social distancing are mandatory. Memorial contributions may be made to St. Jude Children's Research Hospital, Memphis, TN.

www.deborfuneralhome.com

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CARL W. RHULE



Age 83, of McCandless, on Friday, February 19, 2021. Born in Pittsburgh, PA on March 6, 1937, son of the late Paul A. and Ruth (Hetrick) Rhule. Beloved husband of Carole (Yetter) Rhule. Dear father of Lauren (Bob) Schmitt, Karen (Bernie) Collins, Sharen (Mark) Clelland and Eric (Shelly) Rhule. Brother of Donald and the late Richard and Paul Rhule. Also survived by 11 grandchildren and seven great-grandchildren. Carl was a hard worker, human GPS, excellent with his hands, fixing things around the house, and a longtime member of West View United Methodist Church. No Visitation, Memorial service held at a later date. Arrangements entrusted to **SCHELLHAAS FUNERAL HOME**, please leave condolences at www.schellhaasfh.com. Family suggests donations in his name to the Parkinson's Foundation Western Pennsylvania, 575 Lincoln Avenue, #101, Bellevue, PA 15202 or West View Methodist Church, 146 Cornell Ave., Pittsburgh, PA 15229.

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DOUGLAS WAINWRIGHT REID



Douglas Wainwright Reid of Naples, Florida passed away on Friday, February 19, 2021, at Longwood at Oakmont. He was born December 1, 1948, in Pittsburgh, the eldest child of Anice Ridall (Sugar) and Charles Allen Reid, Jr. He was predeceased by his parents and his grandparents, Anice Daniel and Edmund Wainwright Ridall, Sr. and Billie Ellwood and Charles A. Reid, Sr. Doug was educated at Shady Side Academy from the Junior School, through the inauguration of the Middle School and to the first year of the Senior School. He then attended the Lawrenceville School in Lawrenceville, New Jersey from where he graduated in 1966. He received an English-Speaking Union Fellowship to attend the Cranleigh School in Cranleigh, Surrey, England for a year. Returning to America to attend Denison University in Granville, Ohio, he received a BA in 1971. Doug earned an MBA from the Graduate School Business at the University of Pittsburgh in 1972. His employment career began in Chicago in 1972 with L.W. Biegler Inc., a subsidiary of Crum & Forster Insurance Companies. Doug transferred to New York City in 1977 to head the branch there. He was an underwriter of Directors and Officers liability insurance, which he helped create together with underwriters at Lloyd's of London. Xerox Corporation bought Crum & Forster in 1982, by which time he was Executive Vice President of L.W. Biegler Inc. and Crum & Forster Managers Inc. He retired from business in 1984. Doug maintained a residence in Sag Harbor, New York and acquired a place in Naples, Florida where he became a Florida resident. In retirement, Doug learned about genealogy and family history. He volunteered at the Naples Community Library and the Family History Library of the LDS Church in Fort Myers, Florida. He began a deep study of his own family history in 1987, which he continued to his death. In 1987, he reestablished his connection with the Wainwright family compound in Northern Ontario at Rocky Reef on Ahmic Lake where he built a home, which became the focus of the second half of his life. Luckily, he was able to enjoy half the year in Canada and half the year in Naples, Florida. He traveled extensively for family history and was pleased to be able to visit the graves of almost every one he identified in the family, including in Yorkshire, England and Scotland. He also continued research at many great libraries around the United States, including many trips to the vast holdings of the LDS Church of Salt Lake City, including a six-week residency there. Doug leaves behind his sister, Blair Reid McKean and her husband, Bradford Darr McKean, of Naples, Florida; a brother, Scott Wallace Reid and his wife, Anne Gilmore Reid, of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania; and his sister, Lisa Reid Mayer and her husband, Robert Bruce Mayer, of Sun Valley, Idaho and San Francisco, California. Also surviving are the children and grandchildren of his siblings and a rather large group of cousins and relatives uncovered by his research. He felt very close to all of them. A Private interment will be at the Homewood Cemetery beside his parents and Reid grandparents. Doug has asked that some of his remains be scattered at Rocky Reef, Ahmic Lake, Ontario with his Ridall and Wainwright forebears. Memorial contributions may be made in Doug's name to Magnetawan Watershed Land Trust (www.mwlt.org), 340 Fish Lake Road, Novar, ON POA 1R0, Canada, or to a charity of your choice. Arrangements by **JOHN A. FREYVOGEL SONS, INC.** (freyvogelfuneralhome.com).

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ARTHUR ROBINSON

Born February 2, 1948, of Cape Canaveral, FL, formerly of Pittsburgh, passed on January 30, 2021. He was the son of the late Willis and Audrey Robinson. Father of Kelly. Brother of Kevin (Patty) Robinson. Art was an excellent treeman. He also was a bridge painter. Art was a super Steelers fan. Beer drinking and hell raising will never be the same. Services were private. **THOMAS P. KUNSAK FUNERAL HOME, INC.**

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BRAYTON C. RODGERS

Age 94, formerly of Oil City, passed gracefully on February 15, 2021, surrounded by his family in McMurray Hills Manor, McMurray PA. He was a man of great faith and shared his kind spirit with all. He is survived by his loving children James Rodgers (Jane Fruchtel) and David Rodgers (Julie); grandchildren Megan Vickless (Chris) and Sarah Hamilton (Eric); and great grandchildren Everett & Millie Hamilton and Vickless twin great grandbabies arriving later this spring. He was preceded in death by his wife Lucille (Piercy) Rodgers and parents Harry and Mildred Rodgers. Brayton was born and raised in Plumer, PA and attended Oil City High School. He proudly served in the Army during WWII, and although he saw great devastation, he most often spoke of the homeless women and children he saw, and how he found ways to help them. He worked briefly at J&L Steel upon his return from the service, but shortly thereafter went to work at and retired from Mong's Dairy, making friends at practically every stop. After retirement he found a second home working at Thorne's Market. During retirement he also served his community as a member and President of the Cranberry Lions Club, an experience and honor he cherished. Brayton was a longtime and active member of Seneca United Methodist Church. Remembrances and condolences are welcomed on the **LEO J. HENNEY FUNERAL HOME** (Carnegie PA) website. www.Leohenneyfuneralhome.com. A memorial service will be scheduled and announced at a later date.

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RAYMOND J. SCHINHOFEN



Age 86, passed away on February 15, 2021, from complications of the coronavirus. A native Pittsburgher, Ray received his degree in architecture from Carnegie Institute of Technology (now Carnegie Mellon University). He was in private practice for over 40 years, designing residential, commercial, and institutional projects and receiving numerous awards for historic restoration and contextual historical design. In addition, Ray served on the City of Pittsburgh's Art Commission and as Board President of the East End Food Co-op. He was a longtime member of the First Unitarian Church of Pittsburgh, serving on the Building Committee as well as the Green Sanctuary Team, which he helped to establish. Ray was also instrumental in having a geothermal heat pump system installed at First Church, translating his environmental principles into reality. For many years, he taught "Exploring Pittsburgh's Architectural Heritage" for Osher at Carnegie Mellon University, bringing to the classroom what has been described as an irresistible enthusiasm for his subject and ending the course with a walking tour through downtown Pittsburgh, urging everyone to "Look up! Look up!" Ray loved to travel, and among his most cherished memories were trips to Europe, especially to Florence, and the annual summer vacations he spent with his family on North Carolina's Emerald Isle. He was interested in everything and everyone and he will be remembered above all for his zest for life, his masterful storytelling, and his tendency to burst into song for no apparent reason. He was also an exuberant host — the annual New Year's Eve parties "at the Schinhofens" remain the stuff of legend. Ray is survived by Mary, his beloved wife of nearly 67 years; their children, Kate (Steve Flatten), Jeannemarie, Lisa (Howard Waxman), David (Kristen Pett), and Jonathan (Beth Myers); grandchildren, Mija, Corey, Makala, Watumbe, Devin, Dylan, Rayna, David, Nevin, and Isadora; and great-grandchildren, Sofia, Bella, and Bodhi. A Memorial Service will be held at the First Unitarian Church at a date to be announced. Professional Services trusted to **D'ALESSANDRO FUNERAL HOME & CREMATORY, LTD.**, Lawrenceville.

www.dalessandrofth.com

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JOSEPH R. SANCHEZ, SR.



Age 82, of Allison Park, passed away peacefully in his sleep at home on Monday, February 8, 2021. He is survived by his beloved wife and hon, Judith (Bartolick) Sanchez, and his two children, Elizabeth and Joseph, Jr. Son of the late Samuel and Catherine (Vrobel) Sanchez. Brother of Connie (Jim) Shaughnessy, Dolores (Paul) Wagner, Louis (Sue) and Richard (Donna) Sanchez, Frank (Rick) Franconeri, Mary (Dave) Webeck and the late Robert (Cheryl), Samuel (Mary) and Rita Sanchez. Joe enjoyed almost two decades of retirement from his role as a Tradesman Superintendent with the Pennsylvania Turnpike. A skilled carpenter, he continued home improvement projects. Joe was always willing to lend a helping hand and bring laughter to those around him. He believed "you only come this way but once" and lived by these words making the most of every day. Joe was a kind, gentle man who will be greatly missed and fondly remembered by all who knew him well. For anyone wishing to make memorial donations, St. Jude Children's Research Hospital was one of Joe's many favorite charities. Private family memorial services will be planned for a later date. Arrangements by the **WALTER J. ZALEWSKI FUNERAL HOME**, Lawrenceville.

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JAMES D. SCHACHTER



On Monday, February 15th, James Schachter, Big Hearted Jim to family and friends; loving husband, father and pappy, passed away at the age of 69 after a valiant battle with COVID. Jim was born on July 8, 1951, in Elliott to Charles and Ruth (Parke) Schachter. Prior to retiring he worked at Limbach Company. He was so proud to be top of his class in Pittsburgh Culinary School. He was a big fan of Pirate tailgates, Hofbräuhaus big beers, war documentaries, his granddads and cooking- his specialties were his famous "crack" caramel brownies, chili, tuna noodle casserole, and far too many others to name. He loved to laugh, was stubborn as an ox, and his favorite saying in hard times was "it's nice to be nice". Jim was preceded in death by his father, Charles (Pap); his mother, Ruth (Mearn); and brother, Charles, Jr. (Chuckie). He is survived by his beloved wife, Veronica - the love of his life!; his children, Amanda (Derrick) and Jason (April), and cherished granddaughter, Stella Ruth (his "boo boo"). Due to COVID, funeral arrangements will be private. A celebration of life will be planned for July. In lieu of flowers, in his memory, we are starting a foundation to assist pet owners in need to be able to afford life-saving surgery for their pets. Donations accepted here: <https://everloved.com/life-of/james-dale-schachter/donate/>. Arrangements are entrusted to **ANTHONY G. STAAB FUNERAL HOME, INC.**, 900 Chartiers Ave., Pgh., PA 15220. To leave a memory of Jim, visit the funeral home website: www.staabfuneral.com.

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KENNETH W. SEILER



Passed away, on February 19, 2021, at the age of 83. Beloved husband of Loretta Seiler. Loving father of Lisa Finch (Charles Dupree), Kenneth, Jr. (Karen Schultz), Gregory (Lori Duckett), Keith (Colleen McCreary), Eric (Melissa Maze), Matthew (Denise Elick) and Linda Conrad (Douglas Burt). Pap Pap to Gail McDermott and John Finch, Nicholas, Emily, Christopher and Alexander Seiler. Preceded in death by parents, August and Eva Seiler; brothers and sisters, Earl, Vera, Marie Gibson, Evelyn Hanna, Walter Roedler, Harry, Richard and Bernadette Seibel. Ken was the last of his family. He retired after 43 years of service from Duquesne Light Company as a Systems Operator and Outage Coordinator. He loved his job and the people that he worked with. He spent time in the PA National Guard and always looked up when he saw a guard airplane. He enjoyed doing anything with his boys, traveling, cooking, fishing, wood working and singing in the choir at St. Margaret of Scotland Church for over 30 years. He will be greatly missed by ALL who knew him. Family and friends welcome TUESDAY, February 23, 2021 from 2-7 p.m. at **WILLIAM SLATER II FUNERAL SERVICE**, (412-563-2800), 1650 Greentree Rd., Scott Twp., 15220. Mass of Christian Burial to be held on WEDNESDAY, February 24, 2021, at 10:00 a.m. in Corpus Christi Parish, Holy Child Church. EVERYONE PLEASE MEET AT THE CHURCH. Burial will be private to the family. In lieu of flowers, suggested donations may be made to your local food bank. www.slaterfuneral.com.

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ELIZABETH ANN SEVER



Elizabeth Ann Sever, aged 73, of Gibsonia, PA, passed away February 14th, 2021, at UPMC Presbyterian Hospital with her loved ones around her. She was born April 3, 1947, in Salt Lake City, UT. She grew up in Arizona and California, and was an alumna of Camelback High School in Phoenix, AZ. She graduated from Arizona State University and spent her early career working as a model in the Phoenix area, which eventually led to a contract with the Ford Modeling Agency that took her to New York, Paris, and Milan. She then worked in real estate and later founded Plaza Designs, a fine jewelry business, which she operated for 40 years. She was an artist, animal lover, gourmet cook, avid runner and exercise enthusiast. She traveled extensively with her husband of 27 years, Mark F. Sever, and collected art from all over the world. In addition to her husband, Mark, of Gibsonia, PA, she is survived by two sons, Zac Shoush and his wife, Angela, of Los Angeles, and Trevor Shoush and his wife, India, and daughter, Sienna, of Los Angeles. She is also survived by her brother, Bill Nebeker and his wife, Janelle, of Phoenix, AZ, and her mother, Claudia Graef and her husband, David, of Scottsdale, AZ. Due to the COVID pandemic, a celebration of Liz's life will be held later in the year. The family will announce details and select a charity for donations in Liz's honor at that time. Funeral arrangements were entrusted to **BOYLAN-GLENN-KILDOR FUNERAL HOME & CREMATION SVCS., INC.**, 130 Wisconsin Ave./P.O. Box 2155, Cranberry Twp., PA 16066. Expressions of sympathy may be shared with the family at www.boylanfuneralservices.com.

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ROSEMARY SHYMOWSKY



Age 96, of McKees Rocks, PA passed away peacefully on Monday, February 15, 2021. Beloved wife of the late John Shymowsky. Rosemary is survived by her adopted family, Joyce and William Eubanks, Elliot and Shervonne Eubanks and Elizabeth Eubanks. She will be deeply missed by her adopted family. Private Funeral arrangements have been entrusted to the **ANTHONY M. MUSMANNO FUNERAL HOME, INC.**, 941 McCoy Road McKees Rocks, PA 15136 (Kennedy Township) Please view the families online guestbook www.musmannofh.com.

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CLASSIFIED OBITUARIES

KATHERINE E. SHAFFER



Katherine E. Shaffer, of South Park, passed away peacefully at home on Friday, February 19, 2021. Beloved wife for 56 years of Robert E.; loving mother of Brian G., Stephen G. and Darrin G.; daughter of the late John and Marguerite (Fowler) Stankofski; sister of Patti Jo Burns, Sammy Burns and the late Judy Burns and Michael Burns; grandmother of Brittany, Gabriella, Kyliee, Christian and Emma and

great-grandmother of Riley. Katherine was a volunteer at St. Joan of Arc Church. She was a wonderful wife, mother, grandmother and a fantastic homemaker. A Mass of Christian Burial will be Wednesday at 10:30 a.m. in St. Joan of Arc Church.

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NANCY J. SOYKE

Of Munhall, passed on February 17, 2021, at the age of 80. She was the daughter of the late Walter and Joan (Carnakovic) Godleski; beloved wife of the late Donald Soyke; loving mother of Deanna Castillo, Pam Wingler, and Jordan (Megan) Soyke; devoted Nana of Michael, James, Nicholas, Joel, Eva, Joanna, Carley, Hunter, Chloe, Owen, and Logan; great-Nana of Marcellus; and sister of Gerry Kovach, Paul Godleski, and the late Carl and Walter Godleski. Nancy was an avid Bingo player and volunteered at the St. Maximilian Kolbe and St. Agnes Churches. Family and friends received on Sunday, February 21, 1-5 PM at the **SAVOLSKIS-WASIK-GLENN FUNERAL HOME, INC.**, 3501 Main Street, Munhall, PA 15120. A Funeral Mass will be held on Monday, February 22, 10 AM, at the St. Thomas the Apostle Parish, St. Maximilian Kolbe Church, Homestead. EVERYONE PLEASE MEET AT CHURCH. Interment to follow at Calvary Catholic Cemetery, Greenfield. Condolences may be left at www.swgfuneralhome.com.

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NANCY SRINIVASAGAM (BAILEY)

July 25, 1943 - February 10, 2021



It is with profound sadness that the family of Nancy Srinivasagam (Bailey) announces her peaceful passing on February 10, 2021, in Tampa, FL. Her parents, Herbert and Marian, and cherished Narasimman Srinivasagam preceded her in death. She is survived by her beloved children, Kamala (Kate) Vasagam, Nalini (David) Turner, Rachel (Sean) McDonough, and Shekar Srinivasagam. She is also

survived by her adored grandchildren who were the light of her world and brought their Gaggy such joy, Liam, Breanna, Dylan, Madeline, Jacqueline, Lucas and Lily. She additionally leaves behind her dear cousins Arlene, Matt, Debbie and Aley. Nancy was a proud native of Pittsburgh, PA where she lived for 68 years before retiring in Tampa, FL. A graduate of Our Lady of Mercy Academy and Bethany College, where she was president of her sorority Phi Mu and an accomplished classical soprano, she worked as a social worker and in medical offices before her retirement. A devoted member of the Carlow Campus School and Sisters of Mercy communities, she was also involved with the Sri Venkateswara Temple and Indian communities in Pittsburgh, PA and Tampa, FL. Nancy touched many lives with her generosity of spirit, empathy, and kindness. She was a lover of holidays, chocolate, potato chips and HGTV, a prolific consumer of news and scented candles, and her commentary during Steelers' games was legendary. Her family's lives will truly never be the same without her. In lieu of flowers, we request that donations be sent in Nancy's honor to the Myasthenia Gravis Foundation of America at www.myasthenia.org. Due to current circumstances, a private ceremony will be held at a later date. We ask that you share any memories of Nancy through Legacy.com.

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Laurie A. Stepanian-Barber, PhD



Laurie A. Stepanian-Barber, PhD crossed the rainbow bridge on February 18, 2021. Born February 10, 1941, Dr. Stepanian was the daughter of Steven Arvid Stepanian and Edithmarion (McElligott) Stepanian and sister of Leo M. Stepanian (Maryann) of Butler and Steven Arvid Stepanian II (Pamela) of Pittsburgh. She grew up in Charleroi, PA. She earned her Bachelor of Arts degree in Theatre from

Pennsylvania State University. In 1974, she was hired by Slippery Rock University to teach, design and direct all aspects of theater. During her tenure at SRU, she was involved in over fifty productions, was a member of the Executive Committee of APSCUF, the state faculty union and was the Pennsylvania representative to the national Arts in Education initiative of Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts. Dr. Stepanian retired as chairperson of the Department of Theatre in 1997 when she moved to Butler and became involved in Butler Little Theater where she received awards for her acting, designing and directing. In 2005 she acquired her first registered pedigreed cats, two Turkish Vans and started showing them at CFA cats shows. Her cats became National CFA winners. Dr. Stepanian is survived by her husband, Matthew; her niece, Leanne Stepanian; her nephews, Leo II (Gwen), Joshua (Jamie) and Jonathan (Shannon); and her step-children, Alivia and Aden Barber; as well as many great-nieces and nephews. Friends will be received at the **GEIBEL FUNERAL HOME**, 201 East Cunningham St., Butler, PA from 6:00-8:00 pm Monday and from 11:00 am-1:00 pm Tuesday. A Service will follow at 1:30 pm Tuesday at St. Peter Cemetery in Butler. Memorial donations may be made to the Butler County Humane Society, 1015 Evans City Road, Renfrew, PA 16053. Due to current mandates and restrictions, facial covering and social distancing are required.

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STANLEY J. "CHIRP" SZAFRANSKI, SR.



Age 86, of Shaler Twp., on Thursday, February 18, 2021, Mr. Szafranski was the beloved husband of Jacqueline L. Ashbaugh Szafranski; father of Melissa Moore (David), Stanley Szafranski, Jr. (Lisa), Scott R. Szafranski, Stephen H. Szafranski; son of the late Alexander Henry and Theresa Vecchio Szafranski; brother of Anthony "Antek" Szafranski (Irene), and the late Patricia Bell, Henry "Poopie"

Szafranski, Dennis Szafranski; grandfather of Stanley J. Szafranski III (Joe), Nichole M. Szafranski, Stephen V. Szafranski, Seth H. Szafranski, Jazmine R. Moore, Emilee R. Moore, Lily Moore. Celebrate Mr. Szafranski's life with his family on Monday from 3-7 p.m. at **PERMAN FUNERAL HOME AND CREMATION SERVICES, INC.**, 923 Saxonburg Blvd., Shaler Twp. All are welcome. Visitation reservations are suggested, (412) 486-3600. Funeral Mass at St. Mary of the Assumption Church, Glenshaw on Tuesday at Noon. Family respectfully suggests donations be made to a Veteran's charity of one's choice. Leave condolences at: www.permanfuneralhome.com

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JUNE A. MCCANN STEVENS



Born June Anna Spudich, passed away at 88 years old (June 1, 1932 - February 4, 2021). Preceded in death by her parents, Michael and Frances Spudich; first husband, Edward P. McCann, Sr.; second husband, Wilbert Stevens; sister, Violet Lewis; brother, Herbert Spudich; and sister, Betty Emigh. June was the mother of Patricia Jones (Scott), Edward P. McCann, Jr. (Monica), and Ronald McCann (Monica). For further information

please visit www.dalewoodwardfuneralhomes.com.
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JOHN CHARLES "CHUCK" STOVER



John Charles "Chuck" Stover, age 86 of Plum, passed away on Wednesday, February 10, 2021. Beloved husband for 66 years of Joan (Hoffman) Stover, whom he met at a dance at Grove City College. Loving father of George (Cathy) Stover, James Stover and Linda (Michael) Mitchell. Grandfather of Ryan (Angie) Stover, Krissy (Josh) Hill, Chelsie (Nick) Rivett and the late Grant Mitchell. Great-grandfather of Emersyn,

Beckett, Daxton and Maddix. Also survived by nieces and nephews. Chuck was the owner of Stover & Company, a bakery and confectionery supply distributing company, founded in Braddock in 1948 and now located in Cheswick. He was a dedicated business man, had a love for automobiles and traveling, and was devoted to his wife and family. His funeral services were private and interment followed in Plum Creek Cemetery. A memorial service is being planned for a future date and will be announced when scheduled. If desired and in lieu of flowers, the Stover family suggest memorials to Shriners Hospital for Children - Erie, 1645 West 8th St., Erie, PA 16505 or to the Presbyterian Church of Plum Creek, 550 Center New Texas Rd., Plum, PA 15239. Arrangements by **MAURICE L. KNEE, LTD. FUNERAL HOME**.

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STEPHANIE "STELLA" WAY

On Friday, February 19, 2021, a loving wife, mother and grandmother, passed away in Pittsburgh at age 96. Stella was preceded in death by her loving husband, "Chuck", her son, Stephen and 10 brothers and sisters. She is survived by her daughters, Stephanie Waugh and Susan Lasorso; along with seven beloved grandchildren, Greg, Jason, Adam, Joe, Dan, Karen and Brianne. She also leaves behind four great-grandchildren, Juniper, Hunter, Olivia and Sam. Mass of Christian Burial will be held privately for the immediate family. In lieu of flowers, the family suggests that donations be made to OSPTA Hospice Attn: Donation Foundation, 3425 State Rt. 51 N., Rostraver, PA 15012. Arrangements entrusted to **FREYVOGEL-SLATER FUNERAL DIRECTORS**, Bethel Park. www.slaterfuneral.com

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JOHN GEORGE WECKERLE



Peacefully at home on Monday, February 15, 2021. Loving father of Julie (Jared) Homes, Mandy (Derek) Sapp and Russell Trimbur; brother of Carol Schetley and Mary Jane Weckerle; uncle of Tom Schetley; brother-in-law of Russ and Rose Ann Taylor. Arrangements have been entrusted to the **SZAFRANSKI-EBERLEIN FUNERAL HOME, INC.**, 101 Third St., Carnegie. Private Family burial with Full Military

Honors in the National Cemetery of the Alleghenies. www.szafranski-eberleinfuneralhome.com
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WALTER DANIEL WILLS, JR

Walter Daniel Wills, Jr., 94, of Upper St Clair, passed away peacefully at St. Clair Hospital on February 6, 2021, of Covid Pneumonia. He was preceded in death by the love of his life and best friend of 70 years, Grace "Gracie" Milletary (GM, as he affectionately called her). He was the best dad, teacher, mentor, listener, handy man, stock advisor to his children, Walter (Nancy) Wills, Elaine (Brian) Fitzgerald, Donald (Deborah) Wills; grandchildren, Jonathan (Kristin) Wills, Christina Wills (Edward Banti), Michael (Caitlin) Ulf, Megan (Matthew) Sprockett, Kathryn (Ryan) Mesiano, Elizabeth Fitzgerald (fiancé, Christopher Lee), Tamie (John) Konzier, Donald Wills, Anna Wills (fiancé, James Billick); and nine great-grandchildren. Walt was drafted in December 1944 during his senior year at Central Catholic to join the fight of WWII in Germany. Upon arrival, he was handed the manual for the B-17 "Flying Fortress" and told to change the 4 engines, he was 18 with no experience. When finished, the pilot announced "get in we're going for a ride". Upon his return to the US, Walt met Grace and they began their beautiful life together. Grace and Walt were inseparable; they had a wonderful life and a loving, perfect marriage. They were the best of role models and often looked around at family gatherings and commented "All because two people fell in love". Walt often announced that his name was "Walter P Wills, 'P' for Perfect" and his family couldn't agree more, he was perfect. Because of Dad, we will all remember to slow down and appreciate the anticipation of "a silver-wait-awhile" and know that "life is just like eating strawberry shortcake only easier." Grace and Walt were founding members of St. Louise DeMarillac. A memorial mass will be held at St. Louise at a future date to celebrate Walt's life.

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STELLA YARUSSI



Stella passed away peacefully at home, surrounded by her family on February 19, 2021. She was predeceased by her husband, Albert Yarussi and beloved son, Michael F. Yarussi. Survived by her daughter, Sandra Marren and son-in-law, Kevin of Cecil Township; daughter-in-law, Joyce Yarussi of Dallas TX; grandchildren, Kristen Gray (Erik), Amanda Bowditch (Steven), and Michael P.

Yarussi; four great-grandchildren and many dear nieces and nephews. Stella is also survived by her siblings, Brenda Black, Beryl Black, and Tyrrel Davis of England. Born in Wiltshire, England on August 7, 1925, Stella (Barb) was one of eight children of Sid and Elsie Davis. At the age of 20, she met her American GI husband while he was stationed near her hometown and they married in England in November, 1945. As a war bride, she later made the transatlantic voyage alone on the USS Ericsson to meet her new family in America, who quickly grew to love her as their own. Stella's selfless, caring, and giving nature was well known by her family and her many friends. Stella was happiest when she was helping others, most recently as a volunteer at the Canonsburg Senior Center where she served for 20 years. Mass of Christian Burial at St. Patrick's Catholic Church in Canonsburg on Wednesday, February 24 at 10:00 a.m. Private interment to follow. A celebration of Stella's life is planned for family and friends this summer.

Pittsburgh CREMATION & FUNERAL CARE
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CYDNEY ANN ZIESENHEIM

Cydney Ann Ziesenheim, 70, of Laureldale, passed away February 16, 2021, at Penn State Health St. Joseph Hospital. Born in Marion, Ohio, she was the daughter of the late Fredrick and Martha (Midlam) Ziesenheim. She was a kind and compassionate woman with a heart of gold. Cydney had a passion for the beauty in floral arrangements and adored her pets and treated them like her children. She enjoyed spending time in the Florida Keys and the family farm in Erie, PA. A true fighter with a giant spirit to match Cydney will be missed by her family and friends. Cydney is survived by her cousin, D. Dawn; wife of Ronald Breisch, Reading and their children, Ryan, husband of Jillian Breisch and their children, Matthew, Benjamin and Andrew, Sinking Spring and Sharon, wife of Karl Mueller and their children, Karleigh and Faye, Muhlenberg Township. She was predeceased by Kyle Mueller. She is also survived by her aunt, Mary Lou Smith; widow of Kenneth and cousins, Kitty, wife of Daniel Bill, Terri, wife of Richard Harp all of Ohio and Susan Twining in Erie, PA. There was also extended family in Erie, PA. Services will be private at the convenience of the family in McKeesport, PA. **KUHN FUNERAL HOME & CREMATORY, INC.**, West Reading is in charge of arrangements. Condolences may be expressed at www.kuhnfuneralhomes.com.

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EDWARD J. ZOLNAR



Of Penn Hills, PA, passed away at 92 on February 12, 2021, from complications of old age. Preceded in death by his parents, Andrew and Catherine Zolnar; and his siblings, John (Ruth) and Theodore (Betty). Survived by his loving wife of 67 years, Coral Zolnar; children, Allan (Tina) and James; grandchildren, Douglas (Kristina), Christopher (Fallon), and Brian (Amanda); and eight great-grandchildren. Ed was always

there for family and friends in need, and found happiness independent of material things. Date of burial service at Allegheny Cemetery to be determined at a later time. Professional Services by **D'ALESSANDRO FUNERAL HOME & CREMATORY, LTD.**, Lawrenceville. www.dalessandrofhd.com

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RICHARD "DICK" RAYMOND ZORN

Age 95, Dick Zorn, a proud WWII Veteran in the Army's 494th Bombardment Squadron / 334th Bombardment Group, great father, and loving husband, passed away Friday, February 19, 2021, with his daughter, Ann, and son-in-law, John, at his side. He is preceded in death by his wife, Mary, and two sons, Richard and Robert, his parents Stella and Aloisius, and siblings, Harry, Robert "Doc", Marcella "Laverne", and Russell. Dick spent his life-long career as a sheet metal worker and took pride in doing his job well. In addition, he was a great marksman and loved shooting archery "bare bow" with his hunts taking him to many wild and distant terrains. With this great love of archery, he was one of the initiating founders in 1955 of the Falcon Archers Club in Cecil PA, where he shared this love with many others, hoping to spread the love of the sport. Archery, fishing, and gardening gave him a rich, full life. He will be missed by many. Due to the pandemic, viewing and burial through **BEINHAUER FAMILY FUNERAL HOMES** in McMurray PA will be for immediate family only. Please add or view tributes at www.beinhauer.com.

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In Memoriam

MARGARET M. BURLIKOWSKI

2-22-51

Happy 70th Birthday,
Your absence is felt by me, your family and your friends every day.
Loving Husband, Albert

JOHNATHAN COLLEGE

September 13, 1983 ~ February 23, 2012



It's been 8 years of life without you. The memories are always with us that we are ever so grateful. There never was a better son, brother or soul mate. We love and miss you so everyday.

Dad, Mom, Shannon and Lauren

RONALD A. GUBBA (RON)

6/17/1940 - 2/21/2017



Always in our hearts
Tooty, Susie, Gary, Christine

SUSAN H. MOORE

10-14-1946 - 2-22-2016

In memory of
Missed gravely by husband, Chuckie and daughters, Lesley and Cera Jo and other family and friends.

CRAIG MATTHEW PROVINS

2/24/71 - 03/13/19

It broke our hearts to lose you, but you did not go alone. A part of us went with you the day God took you home. If tears could build a stairway and heartaches make a lane, we'd walk our way to heaven and bring you back again. In life we loved you dearly, in death we love you still. In our hearts you hold a place no one could ever fill.

Happy Heavenly Birthday,
Mom, Marci, Ki, PJ, Debbie and family

By Joseph Epstein

If you know of any working comedians, or television sitcoms, or comic writers you think genuinely amusing, please don't hesitate to let me know about them, for I have in recent years been suffering a fairly serious humor deficiency. I cannot remember the last time I smiled even faintly at a New Yorker cartoon. I cannot get through most current stand-up comedy routines. "Seinfeld" was the last sitcom I enjoyed. Something has happened to the GNH, or Gross National Humor, which for a long while now has been plunging steadily downward.

Perhaps the "gross" in GNH is a mistake, for much of what's passed for humor over the past few decades has not wanted for grossness. In the standard choreography of progress — one step forward, two steps back — the removal of censorship has put a serious dent in comedy. In an earlier day, when jokes about masturbation, fellatio, and menstruation were not allowed on public stages, comedians were forced to be more inventive and relied on social observation, irony, timing, language artfully deployed — all qualities that comedy shared with good writing. With so many comedians now working blue, no longer, and distinctly not for the better, is this so.

Not that a touch of grossness, artfully applied, isn't funny, or even sometimes appropriate. On Nov. 29, 1963, I was in the audience at a New York movie theater for a performance by Lenny Bruce. Bruce had to work in the movie theater because he had lost his New York cabaret license over an obscenity-law violation. November 29, 1963, of course, was one week after the assassination of John F. Kennedy. Without introduction or musical fanfare, Bruce walked out from behind the curtain, paused briefly, and, in a conversational voice, said: "Oswald, it's a f***in' rabbit's name. And who doesn't know a putz like Jack Ruby." He then went on to register the shock of a now long-forgotten comedian, Vaughn Meader, whose chief stock-in-trade was a Kennedy impersonation and who, Bruce claimed, when told of the death of the president, said: "But I've had 50,000 T-shirts printed!" Bruce then shifted smoothly into a skit about a Jewish nightclub owner offering one of his Puerto Rican busboys \$50 to have sex with Sophie Tucker, the singer then appearing at his club and who in the skit is assumed to be an insatiable nymphomaniac. The punch line, delivered in a strong Spanish accent, was: "I don't care what you say, Mr. Rosenberg, I'm not going to schtup her!"

More comedians seemed to be at work in that day. But, then, there were more places for them to display their talents. Television no longer offers what were once known as variety shows, the most popular of which at the time was "The Ed Sullivan Show," which ran from 1948 to 1971 and introduced innumerable stand-up comics, among them Richard Pryor, Joan Rivers, Flip Wilson, Alan King, Phyllis Diller, Jackie Mason, Rodney Dangerfield, George Carlin, and others. So big was comedy that some comedians had their own shows — Bob Hope, Milton Berle, Jackie Gleason, Carol Burnett, Steve Allen, and Dean Martin and Jerry Lewis — on which still other comedians appeared. "Your Show of Shows," starring Sid Caesar and Imogene Coca, was so popular and so amusing that people stayed home on Saturday nights to watch it. Johnny Carson was known for introducing new young comedians on his late-night talk show and having older



Daniel Marsula/Post-Gazette

WHAT KILLED HUMOR?

A disunified culture is a serious thing

established comedians — Jonathan Winters, Don Rickles, Sheeky Greene, Dangerfield — as fairly frequent guests.

The range of comedy was in itself fairly impressive. Rickles did insult humor, Winters went off on wild imaginative flights, Ms. Burnett did pleasing physical humor, Mason did heavily Jewish material, and Wilson riffed on Nlack culture, while both Rivers and Diller worked the veins of female vanity, sensibility, and resentment, and Steven Wright played off the comedy of literalism ("Went into a restaurant whose menu said 'Breakfast Anytime,' so

I ordered French toast in the Renaissance"). "The Dick Van Dyke Show" and, later, "The Mary Tyler Moore Show" were what today would be called "must-see TV." I'm not sure anyone noticed at the time, but it was a golden age of comedy.

An entire branch of comedy, now quite gone, was that done by (mostly) men known as "impressionists." They did imitations of famous movie stars and occasionally of politicians. Two of the better known among them

SEE HUMOR, PAGE D-5

Joe Biden's love for Seamus Heaney reveals a soul you can trust

By Jonathan Jones
The Guardian

I didn't fall for Joe Biden until I learned that he loves the poetry of Seamus Heaney. Anyone who responds to the steady, humane voice of Heaney has the timbre of soul you can trust. It's not like a politician rattling off a quotation from Shelley or St Francis of Assisi. You can't pretend to love Heaney, for he's too subtle for that; a slow-speaking country man giving up his secrets gradually, like a farmer revealing the land's hidden knowledge — and its graves.

Heaney, born in rural Northern Ireland in 1939, lived through the Troubles and defied them with poems of generous compassion. His peace process in language anticipated — and helped bring about — the political peace process of the '90s. He is a truly great, adventurous writer who proves the devil does not have all the best tunes.

Mr. Biden has frequently quoted Heaney, particularly from "The Cure at Troy," his version of Sophocles' drama "Philoctetes." To mark Mr. Biden's victory, Ireland's RTE broadcast him reading his favorite passage from this play, urging us to "hope for a great sea-change / On the far side of revenge."

It is for this call for reconciliation that Mr. Biden summons Heaney's wise ghost. And that is a frightening insight into how serious the president-elect thinks the U.S. crisis is. For Heaney wrote brilliantly about hate. It was part of his democratic genius to be able to



Associated Press
Seamus Heaney in 1970.

put himself in other poets' voices, to empathize with other passions, making him a wonderful translator. Some of his greatest lines are in "Ugolino," his version of one of the

most grisly encounters in Dante's Inferno. In the frozen lake near the bottom of hell, Dante sees:

*"two soldered in a frozen hole
On top of other, one's skull capping the other's,
Gnawing at him where the neck and head
Are grafted to the sweet fruit of the brain,
Like a famine victim on a loaf of bread."*

The biter is Ugolino, his prey Archbishop Roger, who walled him up in a dungeon with his young sons to starve to death. Ugolino tells how, as his little boys died, they urged him to feed on their own flesh. Blind from hunger, he succumbed. Now he gets his revenge on Roger for all eternity, but he, too, is in hell. It is a terrible image of the cycle of hatred and revenge that gripped Northern Ireland in 1979, when this poem appeared in Heaney's book, "Field Work."

Other devastating verses in this collection mourn the murders Heaney saw all around him. Casuality remembers a drinking acquaintance who crossed the lines in search of a pub and was caught in an IRA bomb.

*"How culpable was he
That last night when he broke
Our tribe's complicity?"*

Heaney wrote this long before the Good Friday agreement, at a time when there seemed no end to communal conflict, and when it took immense moral courage to confront its futility. In "Field Work," he writes as a Catholic and a critic of British rule. The death of his pub acquaintance, he precisely tells us, happened shortly after Bloody Sunday when British paratroopers "shot dead / The thirteen men in Derry." In the same poem he describes attending their funeral, watching the coffins "float

Navalny case raises question: Who needs democracy?

By Susan P. McCaffray

Alexei Navalny's career has entered a new phase. On Feb. 2 a Russian court found the opposition leader guilty of violating terms of a suspended sentence in an old embezzlement case condemned by the European Court of Human Rights. Navalny triggered the court hearing by leaving the country — in this case, to secure treatment for Novichok poisoning in a German hospital. He was arrested upon his return and now faces at least two and a half years in a Russian penal colony.

What prompted the 44-year-old anti-corruption campaigner, blogger, and politician to risk this predictable result of his decision to return to Russia? The move is a logical, but still surprising, step in a singular career.

Navalny began making a name for himself as a professional gadfly soon after he graduated from law school in the late 1990s, which is to say that Navalny's life in politics coincides entirely with the presidency of Vladimir Putin. Navalny lived through the difficult '90s as a student, and emerged from them with a youthful resolve that eluded his traumatized elders. Navalny



Babuskinsky District Court Press Service via AP
Russian opposition leader Alexei Navalny gestures during a hearing on his charges for defamation in the Babuskinsky District Court in Moscow, Russia.

says that the through line in his career has been helping Russians retrieve what has been stolen from them.

What he has in mind is not only billions of rubles of the nation's wealth but also freedom of political choice. Twenty years on, Navalny

has produced a body of work supporting this mission. His varied activities now constitute a primer on how to build up the public sphere in a semi-authoritarian environment. Both his tactics and his opinions have sometimes confounded sympathizers, but Navalny's

return to Russia and subsequent imprisonment may elevate assessments of his sincerity.

To a substantial record of audacity Navalny now appends the most appealing public attribute of all: personal sacrifice.

Navalny's famous assertion that Mr. Putin heads the "Party of Crooks and Thieves" is by no means universally held in Russia. The first decade of Navalny's professional life corresponded with the period of Mr. Putin's greatest successes, presiding over a reduction in domestic terrorism, reigning in Chechen rebels, raising the standard of living, and returning to a much longed-for stability.

Most Russians relaxed into apolitical torpor and got on with their lives. Navalny in those days joined the country's main liberal party, Yabloko, which is to say he joined a party with almost no popular support and threw himself into its efforts to preserve a semblance of political competition in post-Soviet Russia.

In 2006, Navalny began blogging on LiveJournal, often about Moscow city politics. He tapped into the

SEE NAVALNY, PAGE D-5

SEE HEANEY, PAGE D-5

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Is there Trumpism after Trump?

In the weeks following the presidential election and preceding his departure from office, Donald Trump managed to do what his enemies, as hard as they tried, could not do in four years: He thoroughly disgraced, discredited and marginalized himself.

By persisting in challenging the election, and then inciting a riot, and thus assaulting American liberal democracy itself, which no president has ever done, Mr. Trump destroyed his own legacy.

Whether that means he is finished politically no one can know. But he has surely sealed his fate with the historians. The last days will overshadow everything else, and the Never Trumpers — Republicans who said “I like many of his policies and some of his appointments, but the man is an authoritarian nutcase” — will be vindicated.

But, is it possible to separate Donald Trump from the movement he led, the instincts and impulses he expressed, the yearnings of the people he both inspired and exploited — the “deplorables” and their many silent kin?

The bumper sticker credo of Trumpism can be summarized in four slogan-like notions:

- America first.
- Bring back manufacturing.
- Represent rural and flyover America.
- Disturb, if you cannot dismantle, the elites and their norms of governance and political engagement.

Is there any good in any of that? Anything worth keeping? Or is it all half-baked crankery, or worse?

Again, the historians will have their say on a presidency unlike any other and a social movement populated by people who do not join movements.

But what we can say is that there are some solid instincts in Trumpism, mixed with a fair amount of crankery.

For example, an aggressive trade policy, in which trade is managed and there is reciprocity between trading partners, and American interests and workers are put first, makes great sense. But promising to bring back coal is an empty promise.

Or: Having a secure southern border is simply necessary. But the “wall” was over the top, just as separating children from parents was morally repugnant.

One key flaw in Trumpism is that it is a reaction. It is not a doctrine but a corrective, at best, and a mere posture, at worse.

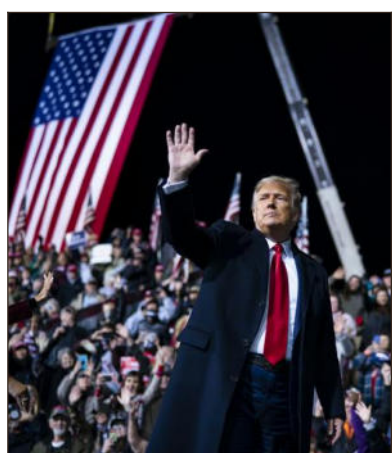
Trumpism contains no ideal or a worldview from which one can glean a game plan, only those gut precepts.

Still, as a reaction it is a legitimate, even profound, one. Trumpism is a reaction to the rather stupendous failure of our elites these last 50 or 60 years. They have given us unwinnable wars and sent our best kids abroad to die in them. They also sent our best jobs — making things — abroad.

It's a pretty wretched record. No one asked the people of Lima, Ohio, or Youngstown, or Scranton, Pa., where Joe Biden spent his early years, if they wanted “free trade” and a “global economy.” No one asked them about keeping troops in Germany for 80 years after World War II.

Without developing a counter-elite, however — people good at government and thinking about government — the Trumpian reaction was often reduced to the president's tweets and Barnum-like behavior or Huey Long-style rallies, with the traditional remedies of Republican politicians and think tanks as an add-on.

It was the Republican establishment that gave us three originalists



Doug Mills/The New York Times
President Donald Trump at a campaign event in Valdosta, Ga., in December.

on the Supreme Court and the better people who passed through the Trump national security team, many of whom were later fired by the president. The Trump presidency gave us new rhetoric but no new public policy ideas to flesh out the instincts, except on trade.

Mr. Trump did change the debate on trade. Everyone is a managed trader now. When we are out of the storm, and the after-storm, of COVID-19, expect everyone from Mike Pence to Elizabeth Warren to be for managed trade.

Ironically, GOP dogma on trade is now what, for generations, was the position of the labor movement and Roosevelt liberals in the Democratic Party.

In many ways, Mr. Trump blew it. His movement met its moment, but he wore us out before it could take hold.

A Marshall Plan for small-town America, for example, cannot happen any time soon. For we have already spent the money we don't have on COVID-19 bailouts, tax cuts and the border wall.

It is impossible to see how more national debt — we are at \$27 trillion-plus — is sustainable.

But the other part of Trumpism that will surely remain predates him and was merely co-opted by him — the conservative pushback in the cultural wars.

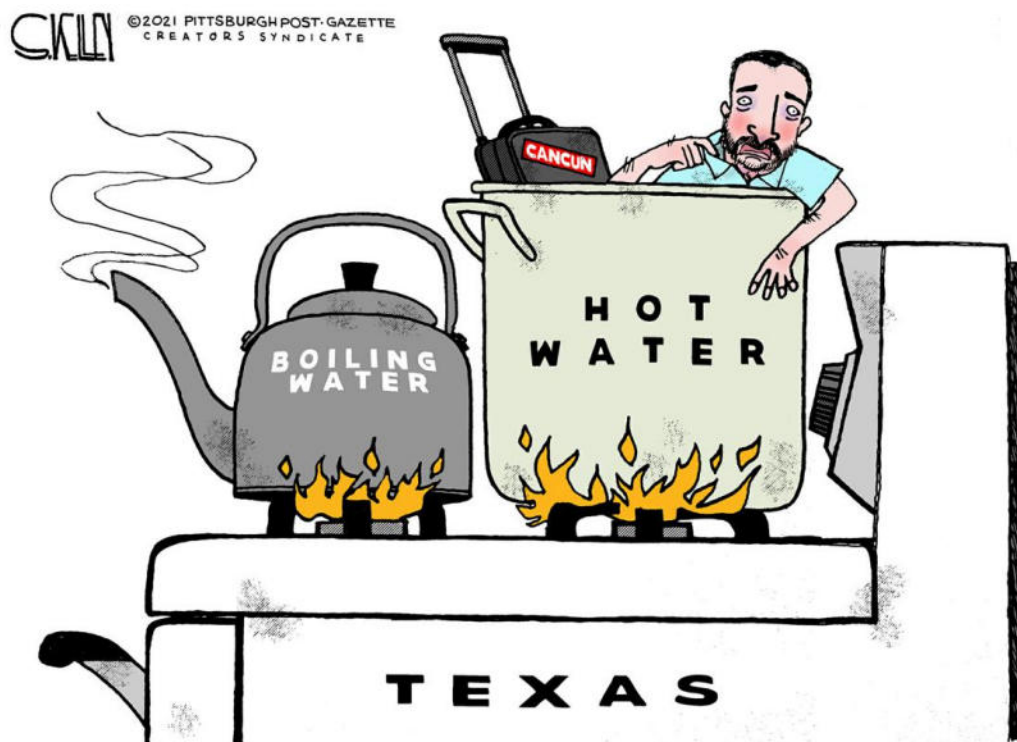
As the left continues to press its attacks on free thought and speech, its hostility to traditional values and life choices, its hostility to capitalism, organized religion, history, tradition, the police and the family, more and more Americans are likely to be repulsed.

Cultural conservatism is ever renewed by the coarseness of our culture and the bullying of the political left.

Mr. Trump was the unlikely tribune of cultural conservatism. (He absurdly stood in front of a D.C. church holding up a Bible after a military guard paved his way — never thinking to go into the church and pray.) But that does not mean a better champion will not come along.

A loud “no” to statism and the dominant culture resonates with a great many Americans — roughly 71 million Americans.

If the alternatives are cultural conservatism, or libertarian populism with respect for law, or the smug, controlling PC fascism of the left, many Americans will pick the closest approximation to one of the first two. And that means Republicans and/or Trumpist Republicans. Not feeling the benefits of the supercilious and censorious Twitter mob, many voters will opt for being left alone — with their “guns or religion,” and their many other un-woke thoughts.



Letters to the editor

Changes move jail in the right direction

The Feb. 11 article “County Lands More Money to Erode ‘Unnecessary Incarceration’” focused on a grant that will fund certain efforts to decrease incarceration in Allegheny County. Our jail currently imprisons about 1,700 people. Fewer than 100 people in our jail are serving out sentences. The majority of people imprisoned in our jail are being held unnecessarily by our locally elected judges. There are some immediate, no-cost ways our elected judges can significantly reduce the incarcerated population at our jail.

Court of Common Pleas judges and their probation administrators can and should stop automatically incarcerating folks for alleged crimes that occur while people are serving probation. By inflicting these probation “detainers,” our elected county judges are currently keeping 500-600 people on the inside.

Our elected magisterial district judges can and should end cash bail, a practice known to disproportionately imprison and further impoverish poor and working-class people. Our district judges can and should end pretrial incarceration for all but a very few. Right now, approximately 300-400 people are in our jail because of this.

Ending abusive probation practices and overly restrictive bail practices in our county could cut our jail population in half.

These changes will move us toward presuming people are innocent until proven guilty. These changes will move us toward ending mass incarceration. These changes will move us toward ending our failed war on drugs. These changes will move us toward being anti-racist.

**ERICA ROCCHI
BRUSSELARS**
North Side

Bright light

Not unexpected yet a very disappointing end to former President Donald Trump's second impeachment trial. However, as I reflect on the past few days, there is one positive take away — the Democrats have several strong and intelligent people in the House of Representatives who hopefully will seek higher office in the future.

Each House manager did an excellent job, but Jamie Raskin, Joe Neguse and Joaquin Castro certainly stood out as possible future leaders of the Democratic Party. This is the bright light I see at the end of the dark tunnel.

FLORENCE CHAPMAN
Squirrel Hill

Toomey's vote

In the midst of writing to Sen. Pat Toomey, R-Pa., to commend his impeachment trial vote, I began to hear of Republican Party apparatchiks of various states initiating censures against their U.S. senators who had been persuaded of the former president's guilt and voted to convict him.

I (unanimously) censure these censors. And more: I charge them with aggravated enablement of the twice-impeached former president in his incitement of the riot and his many falsehoods about the election results. Better they had

remained silent and been thought partisan hacks than speak and remove all doubt.

These state party functionaries should have commended their own senators who were able to weigh the rather blatant evidence of the lies, dereliction of duty, and violation of oath of office by the disgraced former president and then find the uprightness and courage to vote for justice and counter the cowardly and servile deceit of 43 Republican senators.

I was as surprised and perversely satisfied as anyone to hear Minority Leader Mitch McConnell's scathing assessment of the former president's guilt. His conscience must have been intensely troubled, his anger undeniable, to make those statements — especially after his boho dance of cowardice and party cover in his vote to acquit — but fell short of true and lasting virtue.

So, are state Republicans just as cowardly and compromised, pandering to the base? Or are they “the” base?

Who's this “we” that Washington County GOP chairman Dave Ball speaks of who sent Mr. Toomey to Washington to do their bidding? I believe Mr. Toomey is also there to represent Pennsylvania Democrats; I'm one of those, and grateful Mr. Toomey found his conscience — just in time!

CHUCK HAMMERSMITH
Ellwood City

Unfair tax

I have just reluctantly written my check for the 2021 parks tax. I am a senior citizen and voted no when this appeared on my ballot. I take umbrage at having to pay this tax, and trust I am not alone. I have not and do not use the parks.

We welcome your opinion

Letters to the editor must include name, address and phone number for verification. Because of the large volume of mail, letters should be 250 words or less, original and exclusive to the PG. They are subject to editing for length, clarity and accuracy.

Pseudonyms, anonymous letters and form letters will not be used. Please do not send attached email files or more than one letter every three months. We cannot acknowledge or return letters.

Email: letters@post-gazette.com At the present time, the Post-Gazette is only accepting letters electronically transmitted.

Submissions for Perspectives and Sunday Insight may be sent to **opinion@post-gazette.com**

I can think of myriad ways the city could use tax “mandates” to the better advantage of the entire community. Just a few examples — manpower and equipment for tearing down abandoned/blighted properties, manpower and vehicles for better road repairs/snow and ice removal (and quality materials for both), additional funds for police/fire/ EMT personnel, manpower to cite residents for not clearing their sidewalks within the 24-hour time limit imposed after a snowfall — the list could go on.

Why are we catering to parks that are destroyed/defaced/vandalized and are not always used for the recreational purpose for which we are funding? Let's get real. A “no” vote should respect the opinion of the voter and provide an exemption. If the “yes” people want a park, respect their opinion and tax them!

MADONNA A. SMITH
Mount Washington

Pa. must strive to maintain strong energy policies



The Feb. 11 article “Shale Gas Boom Counties Saw Little Growth,” failed to tell the true story of the natural gas renaissance in Western Pennsylvania.

Selectively comparing a handful of counties in our state to the country as a whole, as this study does, is brazen misrepresentation of the fossil fuel industry's contributions to our state.

In fact, Pennsylvania's energy sector is a major boon to our state's economy. Pennsylvania's oil and gas industry has generated almost \$44.5 billion in economic impact — boosting manufacturing, logistics, banking and construction among dozens of other economic sectors. These impacts equate to jobs. It is estimated that more than 339,000 Pennsylvania jobs are connected to the state's energy development industry. Energy producing counties in Pennsylvania actually exceeded the state average in personal income and GDP growth during the study time

period. This hardly supports the argument that the industry failed to contribute to “broadly shared well-being.”

The article also fails to mention the additional tax revenues supported by the natural gas industry. Since 2012, nearly \$2 billion in new revenue has been generated from the impact tax. This tax revenue has gone directly into local communities where drilling occurs, and supports for environmental, highway, water and sewer projects, rehabilitation of greenways in Pennsylvania.

Instead of entertaining dubious reports brimming with motivated reasoning from the Ohio River Valley Institute, Pennsylvania must strive to maintain the strong energy policies that have brought our state prosperity.

EARL BAKER
West Chester, Pa.

The writer is a former Pennsylvania senator and former Chester County commissioner.

Sunday Perspectives

Against the current

KEITH C. BURRIS

Will we come through?

What have we learned?

• After two presidential impeachments in the space of a year and two months?

• After another close and divisive election during a global pandemic, and an electoral aftermath like no other. The incumbent president created and propagated an enormous lie — that the election was stolen. The lie was believed by millions. And then the president himself tried to steal the election.

• What have we learned after watching our beloved Capitol, cathedral of liberty, be stormed and desecrated?

• After seven people died and 140 were injured in that siege?

• What have we learned after the second, riveting and painful, impeachment trial?

What have we learned? Well, first, we learned, again, sadly, that we are two countries — inhabiting two self-contained realities.

There is an invisible wall between them.

Almost no one crosses back and forth.

And both believe the other to be the aggressor in the cold, and sometimes hot, war between them.

In the shadow of the Vietnam War (1972), the great political philosopher Hannah Arendt wrote a book called “Crisis of the Republic.” It dealt with three manifestations of the legitimate political system breaking down — civil disobedience, lying in politics, and violence as a response to broken politics, or what she considered to be the absence of true politics.

We have been in that crisis for the past four years.

Vietnam seemed to rend us in two. A “little” war that we were supposed to win handily (we were seen more of those), had gone terribly wrong. A party’s presidential nominating convention turned into police rioting and chaos in the streets (in 1968). Prophets were assassinated (also ‘68). And then a “law and order” president was elected whose own disrespect for law brought him to the brink of impeachment — “Watergate.”

To many of us, from about 1966 to 1976, it felt as if the country were two countries, and the two hated each other.

Cops were called pigs, and spat upon. Soldiers too. They left their



Maura Losch/Post-Gazette

uniforms at home if they wanted to walk the streets of Washington, D.C.

Peaceful protesters, also, were threatened and spat upon and called filthy hippies who deserved to die protesting (George Wallace).

In my little Ohio hometown, I went to Sunday school on the weekend after the killing of four students at Kent State University, and the godly man who taught the class told us, “They should have shot more of them.” That would put an end to it, he said. *It* being the right to assemble and speak and protest.

I told my mother, who ran the program, “I am not going back to that man’s class.” And I told her why. She agreed.

But we both knew that many of our fellow Ohioans, and Americans, felt precisely that way.

The 1960s weren’t “cool.” They were violent and polarized. Americans could not hear or see each other.

We knew it wasn’t as bad as the Civil War and that the divisions were cultural and political, not geographic or, we hoped, foundational.

But the divide was great and bitter. And we wondered if the center could hold.

Today we wonder once more. And this time it *is* geographic, as well as foundational.

Do both countries believe

in free speech, for all? Do both renounce violence, by all? Do we accept elections when the other America wins?

Our cultural divide is profound, and, again, with little common ground. People on the right are deeply suspicious of anything or anyone international or cosmopolitan. They are suspicious of science. They hate the same federal government they depend upon.

People on the woke left sneer at tradition, at love of country, and even at love of God.

The 1960s ended in 1980 when Ronald Reagan was elected — chosen, in good ways and bad, to take us back.

In a way, the fever broke. In a way, the counterculture wore itself out. In a way, it became a commodity.

And Reagan, by sheer dint of charm and amiability, pulled the politics of the country center right, while the universities went more and more left.

But the other thing that happened is that the system exerted its own grace. Our institutions held firm, and our politics righted itself.

One reason that happened was that a few politicians met the test. They were institutional men, most of them, trying to defend the institutions and the norms of the

republic.

Eugene J. McCarthy took the Vietnam War to the people because, he said, the Senate had failed in its duty and needed to be reattached to our founding document.

Walter Lippmann wrote: “The mission of Sen. McCarthy is to do whatever a gifted and honest man can do to stop the rot in the American political system.”

Jerry Ford, a decent and grounded man, a man of the U.S. House, the people’s house, became president. And he acknowledged the elephant in the room when he said of Nixon and Watergate, “our long national nightmare is over.” He gave us decency and dignity in the presidency again. He restored the presidency.

We need those qualities in a president, it’s clear. We want our president to be decent, and to be able to call decency out of us.

Whatever other capabilities he had, Donald Trump could not do that.

My prayer for President Biden is that he not get too bogged down in demands for change. Be Ike. Mr. President. Be Ford. Be Jimmy Carter. Give us decency and dignity and let the country breathe.

What feels different about now is that after “Vietnam/Watergate,” we felt we’d come through.

We had the feeling that we had been through a national trauma, we’d been tested, our system had been tested, and we’d come through.

We’d had a long and difficult national civics lesson and had found a few, new true leaders, and we were wiser and stronger for it.

Sam Ervin defended the Constitution. Hannah Arendt’s friend, Mary McCarthy, a cold-eyed novelist and public intellectual of the left, wrote a series of reports for *The New Yorker* on the “simple country lawyer” from North Carolina. Ervin taught the nation that presidents are not kings and that we are a nation of laws and not men.

We are unusually lucky in America, in that, during a crisis of the republic, we usually find the right person for the moment: Lincoln and FDR being the greatest examples, but McCarthy, Ford and Ervin being others.

Of course, the nation did not

SEE BURRIS, PAGE D-5

My take

RUTH ANN DAILEY

Does Pa. need sackcloth and ashes?

WalletHub, a personal finance website, sent a mass email last Monday with this subject line: “2021’s Most Sinful States.”

I’m not sure if it was timed for the next day’s Mardi Gras excesses or for Ash Wednesday’s ritual of repentance.

Probably the latter, since there’s no bigger party-pooper than reminding people planning a wild bash that their revelry might be sin. Ouch.

Sin? Has anyone except pastor or priest used that word unironically since the 1970s?

WalletHub researchers packaged it with plenty of compassion, to be sure. “While many people want to quit their vices, it’s a difficult road even under normal circumstances,” the email said, “so the stresses of the COVID-19 pandemic make abstaining all the harder.”

Did lots of people just nod and say “I’ll drink to that”?

Well, here’s something else to toast. We Pennsylvanians are 19th overall in sinfulness. We’re slightly above average — or below average, actually, since these are vices we’re pretty good at.

The study at hand is more or less organized around the traditional “Seven Deadly Sins” and looks at various statistics relevant to each. Each state’s ranking is an average of these categories.

Pennsylvania ranks 25th or lower in five of the seven categories — Anger & Hatred, Jealousy, Greed, Lust, and Laziness — but our overall ranking is much higher because there are two areas where we excel. Or falter, I guess.

We are 18th in “Excesses & Vices,” a catch-all that includes obesity, smoking, drunken driving, indebtedness, marijuana use and opioid prescriptions.

But here’s where we’re really killing it: Vanity. We are the fifth vainest state in the Union!

This comes as something of a surprise, doesn’t it? I mean, it’s a cliché of modern life that beautiful people from everywhere flock to the coasts, to pursue work in the movie, television and modeling industries.

Then they have to stay beautiful, too, so you’d expect that in the race for most vain, California and New York would be neck and (lifted) neck. New York wins, by the way.

(It’s always reassuring to have a clear measure of other people’s sins, isn’t it?)

Third place goes to Florida, where lots of rich New Yorkers retire. Fourth place is New Jersey, where New Yorkers move to get lawns.

And then ... Pennsylvania? Well, our film industry is booming ...

The three metrics — only three — for WalletHub’s “Vanity” category are: beauty salons per capita, household expenditures on personal care products, and internet searches on cosmetic surgery.

Here’s my theory: We in the commonwealth spend lots on grooming because we’re cleaner than average, and we have more salons per capita because we really, really like all our cozy neighborhood haunts. These are not vices, these are virtues!

As for internet searches on cosmetic procedures, well, a search is not a surgery. Unless this is like lust being the same as adultery? If so, WalletHub has a standard so high, it’s biblical.

I jest, but in fact, it was the courageous vocabulary of this study’s overview that caught my attention. Its second sentence: “Harmful behavior on the individual level can result in staggering economic costs, considering that gambling addiction costs the U.S. \$5 billion per year and smoking costs dwarf that with over \$300 billion per year.”

And sin has costs that can’t be expressed in mere dollars, as I know from a sad inventory of my own failures.

Although the pandemic’s loneliness and losses have made many of us more self-indulgent in various destructive ways, it has also brought out some of humanity’s very best qualities.

Despite its setbacks, or perhaps because of them, we’re heading in the right direction. Though new to me, this study has been around for a while, and it turns out we’re making moral strides. Pa. was the 13th most sinful state in 2019, the 16th in 2020 and now, 19th. Nothing like a little 50-way competition to spur us on!

So let’s push back the plate, put down the glass and go for a brisk walk. Wear a coat, though — it’s way too cold for sackcloth.

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National perspective

DAVID M. SHRIBMAN

Whither go the unsettled Republicans?

Early this month, a stealth group of about 100 Republicans “met” on Zoom to discuss forming a new political party. Nice idea. Noble, even. Imaginative. Maybe even inspiring.

Also a complete waste of time.

One of the notions that has been tossed around promiscuously in recent months involves restoring America to the concepts on which it was built. The truth is that the American political system was built to have two parties — not more. Though, as I will argue later, we might be better off with fewer, like none at all.

That, of course, is what the founders wanted: no parties at all. There never has been an introductory course on American government that did not include the reading of Federalist 10, which talks about factions, “united and actuated by some common impulse of passion, or of interest, adversed to the rights of other citizens” — a long way of describing political parties. James Madison, who wrote this entry, deplored factions, and in fact the Era of Good Feelings, which excluded parties, might be thought of to have begun in the last year of the Madison presidency.

Not that parties have been a scourge on our politics. The Republicans of Abraham Lincoln and Everett Dirksen gave civil rights a boost that the Democrats wouldn’t, or couldn’t, do. Franklin Delano Roosevelt’s Democrats and Ronald Reagan’s Republicans asked searching questions about the role of government in our lives.

Now back to the idea of a new party, split off from the Republicans who are at the moment in the thrall of Donald J. Trump.

There are, to be sure, true dif-

ferences between the Trumpers and the Never-Trumpers. And it is likely true that the GOP secessionists feel grave discomfort in a party where, according to last week’s Quinnipiac poll, three-fourths of Republicans want Mr. Trump to play a big role in the party. One of the leaders of the group exploring a new party called his old party “irredeemable.”

Interesting choice of words. The Redeemers were a Democratic splinter group in the South after the Civil War who opposed the Republican-dominated governments created under Reconstruction.

In any case, third parties truly prosper only if they replace one of the major parties, as the Republicans did by 1860 with the election of Lincoln. Usually their views are subsumed into one of the big parties, as the Populists, who in 1892 captured 22 electoral votes behind James B. Weaver, were by the Democrats who nominated William Jennings Bryan in 1896.

Third-party presidential candidates have won electoral votes 10 times; the most recent successful third-party entrant, Ross Perot, won 19% of the vote in 1992 — but he didn’t receive a single electoral vote. The electoral vote champ was Theodore Roosevelt, who in 1912 led his Bull Moose faction out of the GOP and captured 88 electoral votes, thrusting the Republican candidate, President William Howard Taft, into third place. In 1968, George C. Wallace won 46 electoral votes on the American Independent ticket.

But today a potential new anti-Trump party that represents at best a fifth of an established party — which itself represents only about a quarter of Americans — is not exactly poised for victory.

But that is not because of the

power Mr. Trump has over Republicans. It is an American political system that favors two parties because there is only one prize in our elections: victory. We do not operate under a proportional representation system, as Israel, Italy and Belgium do. And today Israel (which seems to have an election every few months), Italy (which has had more than five dozen governments since World War II), and Belgium (which last year broke its own record for time without a government — 592 days) are not inspiring examples.

There is, however, a place for those Republicans discomfited by Mr. Trump and by the remarks of Sen. Lindsay Graham, who last Sunday told Fox News, “We need Trump-plus.” And for those like Pete Wehner, who served in the administrations of Mr. Reagan and both Presidents Bush and who, in his 2019 book, “The Death of Politics,” wrote, “Many Americans have lost hope that we can solve our problems using the traditional means of politics.”

Calling Angus King. Mr. King, from Maine, is a former two-term governor who is now in his ninth year in the Senate. He is an independent.

“I was uncomfortable with the fiscal and regulatory policies of the Democrats and the social policies of the Republicans so I decided to go up the middle,” he told me the other day. “It has been liberating.”

His experience as governor (1995-2003) illuminates the advantages of a none-of-the-above profile, even though he had no natural allies in the state legislature.

“I could appoint anybody I wanted — judges, Cabinet members, members of boards and commissions,” he said. In the normal partisan world you make 99% of

David Callahan

Natural gas is a cornerstone for climate, economic progress

Growing up in Pennsylvania's northern tier, the son of parents who proudly worked for the local natural gas utility, energy was always a topic of conversation.

Today, as it was back in '70s — a decade when energy scarcity made us realize the importance of energy to many facets of our daily lives — how we produce, transport and use energy is front of mind for American consumers, especially in light of COVID-19.

Thankfully, the dark days of energy shortages are gone, as the United States is blessed with abundant supplies of clean, affordable natural gas. As countries tackle complex challenges to address climate change while balancing economic growth, Pennsylvania-produced natural gas must be the cornerstone to serious solutions.

The commonwealth sits atop among the world's largest and most prolific shale gas formations. Pennsylvanians overwhelmingly support safely producing, transporting and using natural gas to manufacture American-made products in the cleanest, most environmentally sustainable way.

That core commitment — responsibly developing the clean-burning energy that's helping to combat COVID-19 and supporting our most critical economic and environmental goals — is shared across our member companies, from the natural gas producers to infrastructure operators and manufacturers making lifesaving critical goods.

Natural gas has been essential in fighting this pandemic, as it's the building block in manufacturing plastic medical supplies — think masks, gowns, ventilators, vaccine syringes —



A Marcellus Shale drilling site.

Pittsburgh Post-Gazette

and is critical to ensuring hospitals have around-the-clock, reliable heat and power.

And it's the greater use of natural gas in power generation — both as on-site backup at hospitals and utility scale — that's driving climate progress. As natural gas meets a larger share of our electricity needs, U.S. power-sector carbon dioxide emissions have declined 33% since their 2007 peak, federal government data recently concluded.

Similarly, in Pennsylvania, where natural gas makes up 43% of electricity generation, harmful air pollutants like sulfur dioxide and nitrogen dioxide are down 92% and 60% since 2005, according to state data.

This clean air success is largely market-driven, where natural gas and renewables work in partnership to produce more electricity and even fewer emissions. A

pragmatic, commonsense and market approach will be key to unlocking ways to make natural gas use cleaner and bring about the most effective solutions to our biggest challenges.

In fact, a recent GE analysis emphasized the well-known fact that natural gas and renewables “deployed in tandem can provide decarbonization at the pace and scale needed to help achieve substantial climate goals.”

Individual energy companies continue to make significant strides to further enhance environmental performance by deploying advanced technologies, best practices and rigorous compliance programs. Our industry is proud of the shared successes that have positioned the Marcellus Shale as the nation's lowest-cost and lowest-emissions shale gas basin.

Climate, energy, poverty and

national security issues are global in nature, and that's where there's significant opportunity for domestic natural gas to play a leading role.

American natural gas exports can provide immediate and long-term global climate solutions. Our allies around the world, especially in developing regions, need affordable and cleaner energy. We have the opportunity to take a leadership role in meeting that demand, rather than ceding ground and political leverage to competing energy-producing nations that don't produce energy in a way that's anywhere close to how safely we do it here.

As policy debates advance, some leaders will focus on actual facts and science while others will cling to unrealistic desires that speak to a narrow base of political supporters who are OK with the devastating and unnecessary loss of good-paying American energy jobs, including for union workers.

Extreme government-imposed energy bans, winners-and-losers mandates, and energy tax increases have made a lot of headlines recently nationally and in our state. Gov. Tom Wolf again proposed an additional energy tax that would make Pennsylvania the nation's highest such tax while eroding jobs and harming our fragile pandemic recovery.

We need an honest conversation focused on pragmatic policymaking. Energy is fundamental to human progress, and thanks to clean, abundant natural gas, we have a generational opportunity to come together for real solutions.

David Callahan is president of the Robinson-based Marcellus Shale Coalition.

Lisa Smith Molinari

Extremism: Don't throw the honorable out with the bathwater

Recently, the reputation of the military has been tarnished by Capitol riot reports indicating that a significant number of those arrested have served in the military. Although extremism in the ranks is not a new problem, Secretary of Defense Gen. Lloyd Austin saw the riot as a “wake-up call.” On Feb. 3, Gen. Austin ordered a 60-day stand-down for all military commanders to meet with troops to discuss racism and extremism.

Even though “DOD policy expressly prohibits military personnel from actively advocating supremacist, extremist or criminal gang doctrine, ideology or causes,” the mandatory stand-down is an aggressive step in figuring out why 1 in 3 active service members reported evidence of white supremacy and/or extremism within their units in a 2019 poll, up from the previous year.

I applaud the aggressive stance being taken by Defense Department leadership. Racism and violence has no place in our military. Regardless of statistics, even one bigot or extremist in our incredibly diverse and talented service is one too many.

However, while reading reports on the Capitol attack, I've been disheartened that the idiocy of a few has damaged the reputation of 1.3 million active duty and 18 million veterans. As a Navy spouse whose husband served proudly for 28 years, I know that “guilt by association” affects the morale of military family members, too.

It doesn't take a military strategist to figure out that an all-volunteer force is effective only if — in a country where less than one-half of 1% of the population is willing to serve — the risk-reward proposition offers positive recognition. However, some reporting on the military-connected Capitol rioters has failed to mention that the vast majority of men and women who serve do so honorably.

In fact, a few have implied that military folks are not to be trusted at all.

As a military-connected person, I consume news with a filter — I know that these implications play into an uninformed public perception of military as Rambo-type nationalists waving rebel flags. The military families I've known over three decades are overwhelmingly decent, diverse, law-abiding, thoughtful people.

But on Jan. 18, as 25,000 National Guard troops were assembling to protect the Capitol, the president-elect, Congress and all those gathering for Inauguration Day, U.S. Rep. Steve Cohen said in a CNN interview: “The [National] Guard is 90-some-odd percent male ... they're probably not more than 25% of the people that are protecting us who voted for Biden. The other 75% ... might want to do something.” When CNN reporter Jim Scutto asked if Mr. Cohen had seen any evidence of insider threats in the military, he said, “Actually not, Jim, but you draw a circle ... the people who were for Trump and not for Biden, ... the zone of folks who you'd be suspect of. The suspect group is large.”

Although Mr. Cohen was immediately hit with widespread criticism for his inaccurate statements, I wondered, “How many watched that CNN morning show and believed what they heard?”

Then, on the Jan. 21 episode of “All Things Considered,” NPR reported that 20% of defendants in Capitol riots cases served in the military.

My heart sank. Can this be true?

Not quite.

On the Feb. 10 episode of “Morning Edition,” NPR claimed that 31 of 212 defendants are “military veterans [who] account for about 15% of those criminally charged in the Capitol riot.” However, NPR's searchable database indicates that they skewed their own statistics to fit the insider-threat narrative.

NPR lumped two law enforcement defendants with no military service into the pool of 31 “military” defendants and included three veterans who were arrested only for violating the 6 p.m. city curfew. One veteran was not at the Capitol, but was charged for allegedly threatening statements he made on social media afterward. Another “veteran” had enlisted in the Marines but separated during basic training. Only two defendants are serving currently, both in the Army Reserves.

Details are important when the morale of millions who serve our country honorably is at stake. Reckless statements by pundits, politicians and the media may play into the fears of the misinformed, but they do nothing to serve truth and justice.

Lisa Smith Molinari is a columnist for the Stars and Stripes newspaper. She is a native of Indiana, Pa., and resides in Rhode Island with her husband.

John McVay

Recognizing Ray Kemp, first Black Steelers player

Black History Month and Western Pennsylvania's rich history of Black sports pioneers necessitates the highlighted recognition of Ray Kemp, former Duquesne University tackle and, most significant, the first Black player in Pittsburgh Steelers history.

Kemp's achievements precede by decades those of Jackie Robinson and our own Chuck Cooper (who finally seems to be getting the recognition that he so richly deserves through the hard work of his son Chuck Cooper III and others), and he remains grossly underappreciated today.

Ray Kemp was born April 7, 1907, in Cecil and a mere 20 miles away from his future alma mater, Duquesne University. Upon graduation from Cecil High School in 1926, he worked in a local coal mine for a year prior to enrolling at Duquesne.

While at Duquesne, he played for the legendary coach Elmer Layden, one of Knute Rockne's “Four Horsemen” of Notre Dame fame and later an NFL commissioner. Kemp would become a starting tackle during his sophomore year and reportedly received honorable mention as a senior on some All-American teams.

After graduating from Duquesne in 1931, Kemp agreed to play for his dear friend and former Dukes “grizzer” Art Rooney, who ran a local barnstorming semi-pro team called the J.P. Rooney's. Rooney's team traveled across the country in search of football games to play before Pennsylvania blue laws were amended to allow pro football to be played on Sundays. While playing for the J.P. Rooney's during that 1932 season, Kemp also coached line at Duquesne and was a “ringer” for the Erie Pros.

The next year, in 1933, Art Rooney was awarded an NFL



franchise, and the Pittsburgh Pirates, later the Steelers, were born. Kemp chose to continue to play for Rooney and, at that time, was one of only two Black players in the NFL.

After starting at tackle the first three games, he was cut by Pirates head coach Jap Dowds, who also happened to play Kemp's position. Kemp left the team and went to work in a steel mill, but Art Rooney needed his old ringer and recalled Kemp to start for the Pirates against the New York Giants after the team had lost five of seven games.

The night before the game at New York's fabled Polo Grounds, Kemp was forced to leave the hotel. The team and the NAACP urged Kemp to file a lawsuit in response to the racial discrimination, but Kemp refused, fearing the backlash it would cause Rooney. In a 1994 article written by Vito Stellino of The Baltimore Sun, Kemp's appreciation for Rooney was noted: “I always admired Rooney. He gave me a chance to be a pioneer.” Ray Kemp was the player who, even though it wasn't discussed, began the Rooney Rule.

Kemp went on to achieve much more as the director of athletics, coaching varsity football, basketball, and track and field at historically Black schools Bluefield State in West Virginia, Lincoln University in Missouri and Tennessee State.

Despite being the NFL's second Black player and one of only 13 in the NFL's formative years, there were none from 1934 until 1946. Many believe the banning of Blacks in 1934 was a result of Major League Baseball's ban, while others



Pittsburgh Steelers

Ray Kemp was the first Black player in Steelers franchise history and was one of only two black players in the NFL in 1933.

believe it resulted from then Washington team owner George Preston Marshall's racist beliefs and a “gentlemen's agreement” among team owners. Washington did not have a Black player until Bobby Mitchell in 1962.

Kemp laid the foundation in the NFL for much of what is taken for granted today, as did

Robinson in Major League Baseball and Duquesne University's Cooper in the National Basketball Association. Robinson and Cooper's histories are undoubtedly better known than Kemp's, likely due to the obscure nature of the NFL in the 1930s as well as the fact that there already had been Black players in the NFL at inception.

Nonetheless, Kemp has been recognized by the Pro Football Hall of Fame as one of the Black pioneers of the game. Kemp is also a member of the Duquesne University Hall of Fame, the Western Pennsylvania Sports Hall of Fame, and was honored by the NFL as an honorary captain during the 75th anniversary season of the NFL at the Pittsburgh Steelers/Indianapolis Colts game in 1994.

Black History Month's nascent can be traced to 1926, when historian Carter G. Woodson declared the second week of February as “Negro History Week,” coinciding with the birthdays of Abraham Lincoln and Frederick Douglass. While recognizing that Western Pennsylvania sports history is but a small part of Black history, a subject much larger than one man or one topic, it was often through sports that Blacks were given the opportunity to compete with and against white society. To that end, the woefully underappreciated achievements of Ray Kemp, both on the field and off, should be acknowledged and celebrated and moving forward mentioned in the same conversations with the most significant pioneering Black athletes.

John McVay is a judge in the Civil Division of the Allegheny County Court of Common Pleas and a former football player and member of Duquesne University's Sports Hall of Fame.

Insight

Navalny case raises question: Who needs democracy?

NAVALNY, FROM D-1

has mobilized impressive resistance to unpopular development schemes. Eventually he registered on Mr. Putin's radar screen as "the blogger," although the president famously will not mention him by name.

Navalny has steadily expanded his social media presence, establishing his Anti-Corruption Foundation in 2011, which produces heavily sourced and slickly mounted video reports about corruption in Russia's major companies and among its elite. Navalny airs these documentaries on a YouTube channel that now has 6 million subscribers. His most recent production, describing "Putin's Palace" on the Black Sea, has been viewed 100 million times since early February. Nearly a quarter of Russians have seen it.

Around the same time that Navalny began his blog, he parted ways with Yabloko. In 2007, Navalny embraced an anti-immigrant populism and made racist comments about Russia's most vulnerable minority, people of Central Asian ancestry. He had a passing alliance with two nationalist groups, and has not renounced his views on immigration.

These moves attracted the scorn of Russian liberals and limited his appeal to Western human rights



Women attend a rally in support of jailed opposition leader Alexei Navalny and his wife, Yulia Navalnaya, in St. Petersburg, Russia, on Feb. 14.

groups. But Navalny's divorce from liberal parties did not prove permanent. He has been one of the principals in a constellation of opposition figures from political parties across a center-left to center-right spectrum. These parties have struggled to win seats to regional and city offices, sometimes collaborating in hopes of denting the grip of Mr. Putin's United Russia Party.

Navalny challenged Moscow's mayor Sergei Sobianin for election in 2013, posting a respectable, if distant, second after a campaign that raised millions of rubles and enlisted 20,000 volunteers.

In late 2016, Navalny announced his intention to run for president in 2018, proclaiming on YouTube that his

campaign was "based on a simple fact: Russia is a very rich country, and the main reason for our poverty is corruption and terrible governmental rule in recent decades." He launched a series of anti-corruption rallies across the country, attracting legal harassment, physical attacks and multiple arrests. In the end Putin's government kept him off the ballot.

Since then Navalny and his organization have focused on building up regional affiliates across Russia. These bodies are unique in imparting to a younger generation the democratic strategies of investigation, communication and video production. Such efforts may be bearing fruit.

United Russia's grip is

weakening in some regions, notably Russia's far east. It was while returning from a trip to Siberia in August that Navalny abruptly fell ill, poisoned with what German physicians later confirmed was a Soviet-era government nerve agent.

What will come of Navalny's efforts during his prolonged absence? Russian authorities exude confidence in their ability to limit his appeal using tested methods: implying that Navalny is a Western front man; keeping his face and name off TV; detaining and otherwise harassing his organization's leaders. In fact, recent polling by the well-regarded Levada Center suggests that while Navalny's name recognition has risen

substantially since 2013, fewer than 20% of respondents approve of his activities.

On the other hand, the severity of the recent crackdowns on pro-Navalny demonstrations is something new. It may reflect the realization in high places that a generational divide is appearing. Three times more people aged 18 to 24 report approving of Navalny than do people over 55.

The disparity is sharpest when considering people's sources of information: whereas 64% of people who get most of their information from television (all of it government sanctioned) disapprove of Navalny's activities, only 40% of those who get information from the new Telegram internet channels disapprove of him.

For now, Navalny himself can play only the symbolic role of a silenced martyr, and the number of forgotten martyrs looms large. Whether the networks and infrastructure he has left behind can carry on remains to be seen. But Navalny's story makes it clear that whether they know it or not, Russians face the great question of our times: Who needs democracy?

Susan P. McCaffray is history professor emerita of the University of North Carolina Wilmington.

Will we come through?

BURRIS, FROM D-3

see any of them that way in their own time.

But does *anyone*, now, feel that our long national nightmare is ending?

Our institutions seem, quite literally, battered.

Well, maybe there is more hope than we think.

Maybe the fever is breaking and we just don't see it yet.

In weeks, Mr. Biden has restored efficacy and competence to the executive branch. He works at being decent and dignified. He is attempting to restore the presidency.

Mike Pence, under threat of political extinction, not to mention actual death, did his duty. My daughter once shrieked when I called him a good man. But, yes, he is.

And what is Rep. Jamie Raskin, the lead House impeachment manager, but an honest man trying to stop the rot?

Keith C. Burris is editor, vice president and editorial director of Block Newspapers (kburris@post-gazette.com).

What Killed Humor? A disunified culture is a serious thing

HUMOR, FROM D-1

were Frank Gorshin and Rich Little. Gorshin's caricatural impressions of Kirk Douglas and Burt Lancaster made it impossible for me ever again to watch the movies of either of these actors without inwardly giggling. The standard repertoire of the impressionists included imitations of James Cagney, Edward G. Robinson, Bette Davis, John Wayne, and others. So far as I know, no impressionists are at work today. Of whom, after all, could they do impressions? Brad Pitt, Gwyneth Paltrow, Adam Schiff, Leonardo DiCaprio? Personalities, whether in movies or public life, no longer exist who seem worth imitating.

In the private realm, there is joke-telling, the act of friends telling friends jokes they have heard. When I hear what I take to be a good joke, I am eager to pass it on. In "Jokes and Their Relation to the Unconscious," Freud was quite wrong in thinking that jokes are inherently acts of unconscious aggression, but he wasn't wrong when he called jokes "good news," by which he meant that the creation of a joke meant someone was thinking.

Joke-telling may be generational, ending perhaps with my own generation (I was born in 1937), and heavily favored by certain Jews, or, as I think of them, Jokey Jakeys. I happen myself to be such a Jokey Jakey. On the first day of the one creative-writing course I taught, I asked the students to tell a joke. My reason for asking was that a joke is a mini short story. Not many of my students knew any jokes. The only one I remember from that class was about a mushroom coming home in tears to tell his mother he wasn't invited to a party of the vegetables. His mother, attempting to comfort him, asked whether he had told the other vegetables he was "a fungi."

Here are three jokes I have told recently:

(1) Malcolm Brown, age 98, at his annual physical, tells his physician he thinks he is slowing down sexually. His physician, astonished that a man of 98 would have any sex life at all, asks him when he first noticed this. "Last night," Brown replies, "and then again this morning." When his physician notes how remarkable this is, Brown answers, "If you think I'm remarkable, you should know that my father, at age 126, is planning to get married next week." When the physician asks, "Why would a man who's 126 want to get married?" Brown replies, "What do you mean 'want to'?"

(2) The police call on Mrs. O'Leary to tell her the sad news that her husband Paddy had fallen into a vat of



George Carlin performs at Kent State University in the 1970s.

dark beer at the local brewery and drowned. "I hope his death was at least a quick one," Mrs. O'Leary, in tears, says. "I'm afraid it wasn't," the policeman replies. "How do you know?" Mrs. O'Leary asks. "Because," the policeman replies, "he was seen three times leaving the vat to urinate."

(3) Goldenberg, in his strong greenhorn accent, says to his friend Glickman: "I just bought a new hearing aid. Wonderful! Look, you can't even see it in my ear. State of the art, state of the art! Cost \$5,000. Magnificent! Untoppable! Like I say, state of the art." Glickman asks, "What kind is it?" Goldenberg looks down at his wrist and says, "A quarter to three."

None of these jokes is in especially good taste, but then I'm not sure that humor has much to do with good taste. Yet all three jokes, in the current political atmosphere, might be disqualified, their teller written off as crudely insensitive. The first is after all an example of what is called "ageism," and what about the poor young woman that Brown's aged father has made pregnant? The second plays on the old stereotype of Irish drinking and can be ruled out of bounds on the grounds of ethnic prejudice. The third, because of the name "Goldenberg" and the reference to his accent, just might be considered anti-Semitic while also mocking the disability of deafness. A more virtuous person, surely, would do well not to tell any of these jokes.

Make that "would do well not to tell any of these jokes during the current reign of political correctness." In fact, under this reign he would do well to steer clear of any humor whatsoever. Whole categories of jokes must be forgone. All the old mother-in-law jokes would now be scored off as obviously sexist. Lenny Bruce's joke about the Puerto Rican busboy and Sophie Tucker would be considered racist. All ethnic jokes are strictly verboten. Just about every other category of joke would be awarded one or another of the current day's non-union labels: misogynist, elitist, or just generally offensive.

A shame that George Carlin, who died in 2008, isn't alive to take on, through his attack-

ing humor, the grave humorlessness of political correctness. Carlin it was who said that "there's a different group in this country to get pissed off at you for everything you're not supposed to say." Political correctness, with its comfortable home in our universities, would make a lovely comedic target for any comedian with the courage to engage it. Doubtless it is an indication of PC's threatening power that no comedian yet has. Comedians steer clear of it. Jerry Seinfeld, the most apolitical of comedians, no longer plays campuses because he feels that nearly every bit he does is likely to trigger anger in a university audience.

What passes for humor instead, or has for the past four years, are the late-night talk-show hosts — Stephen Colbert, Jimmy Kimmel, Seth Meyers, et alia — taking potshots at the ignorance and general repulsiveness of Donald Trump. Talk about an easy target. Because it is so easy, none of these men is especially funny, unless one has an advanced case of TDS, or Trump Derangement Syndrome, and so feels one's disgust reinforced by their relentless mockery. One wonders what these men, these half-wits — "half" in that their wit is likely to appeal to only half the country — will do now that Mr. Trump has departed the presidency.

Politics can be death to humor, at least if the comedian takes a political side. Even so beloved a comedian as Bob Hope lost a good share of his audience when he came out in favor of Richard Nixon's position on continuing to prosecute the Vietnam War. During the 2008 election, Sarah Silverman lost some fans when she did a bit encouraging children and grandchildren to threaten not to visit their elderly relatives in Florida if they didn't vote for Barack Obama against John McCain. Too much of the current version of "Saturday Night Live" is political, and as for the cable channel Comedy Central, I watch it so seldom that I think of it as Comedy Peripheral.

Mort Sahl did political humor, and for all I know — he's 93 and occasionally working — may still be doing it. But his political humor was without rancor. He found politicians

generally, without distinction of party, worth mocking. I ran into Mr. Sahl one night in 1956 on Rush Street in Chicago, when he was playing the now long-gone nightclub Mr. Kelly's. I told him that in Arkansas, the segregationist governor Orval Faubus was planning to run against J. William Fulbright for the U.S. Senate and wondered, if he won, would students henceforth study abroad on a Faubus? Mr. Sahl was mildly amused and, in the spirit of an eye for an eye, a joke for a joke, told me that a pre-presidential-election-campaign meeting between President Eisenhower and Adlai Stevenson had had to be canceled because they couldn't find a translator.

Which brings me back to the old television variety shows, on which I first saw Mort Sahl. An episode of "The Ed Sullivan Show" might include an opera singer, an animal act, acrobats or jugglers, one or two comedians, and a popular singer. These were shows — "The Garry Moore Show," "The Perry Como Show," "The Carol Burnett Show," and others — that three generations of the same family could amiably watch together. The reason is that the United States in those years had a more unified culture than it has now, or at least the dominant culture was not itself under attack.

This unified culture began to break up when a separate youth culture arose in the 1960s. Later, the Black-power movement, forgoing integration, formed another, separate strand of American culture. The 1970s saw what is now known as the second wave of feminism, and this was closely followed by the gay-liberation movement. America was still one country, but now a country made up of several different strands of culture, and many within them feeling deprived, depressed and mad as hell. None was in a mood for joking. Humor was out, anger in.

Is humor likely to make a comeback in that exasperatingly indeterminate stretch of time known as "the foreseeable future"? "Wouldn't it be pretty to think so?" as Hemingway's hero Jake Barnes says in "The Sun Also Rises." But humor may have to await a less-divided country, whose arrival no one can predict. Which is a shame. For a country without humor, one that cannot laugh at itself, one in which ample segments of the population go about ticked pretty near the max, doesn't, let's face it, figure to be much fun.

Joseph Epstein is the author, most recently, of "Gallimaufry, a Collection of Essays, Reviews, Bits." Copyright 2021 National Review. Used with permission.

Joe Biden's love for Seamus Heaney reveals a soul you can trust

HEANEY, FROM D-1

cathedral", feeling the power of shared grief "Till we were braced and bound / Like brothers in a ring."

It wasn't easy for Heaney to preach reconciliation. The profundity of his poems about the Troubles lies precisely in his ability to understand that Ugolinesque urge to gnaw on your enemy's skull.

There is a depth in Mr. Biden's response to Heaney that clearly goes beyond mere political convenience. He has suffered terrible losses in his life and perhaps he finds particular solace in this poet who voyages into the underworld and speaks with the departed. This appreciation of one of the wisest and subtlest of poets marks out Mr. Biden as a truly rare politician.

In general it is a good thing that poets are not, as Shelley claimed, the true legislators of the world. Would you want the antisemitic T.S. Eliot, Mussolini-supporting Ezra Pound or petty racist Philip Larkin influencing politics? But Heaney was that truly rare thing: a great imaginative artist who was also a wise and noble human being.

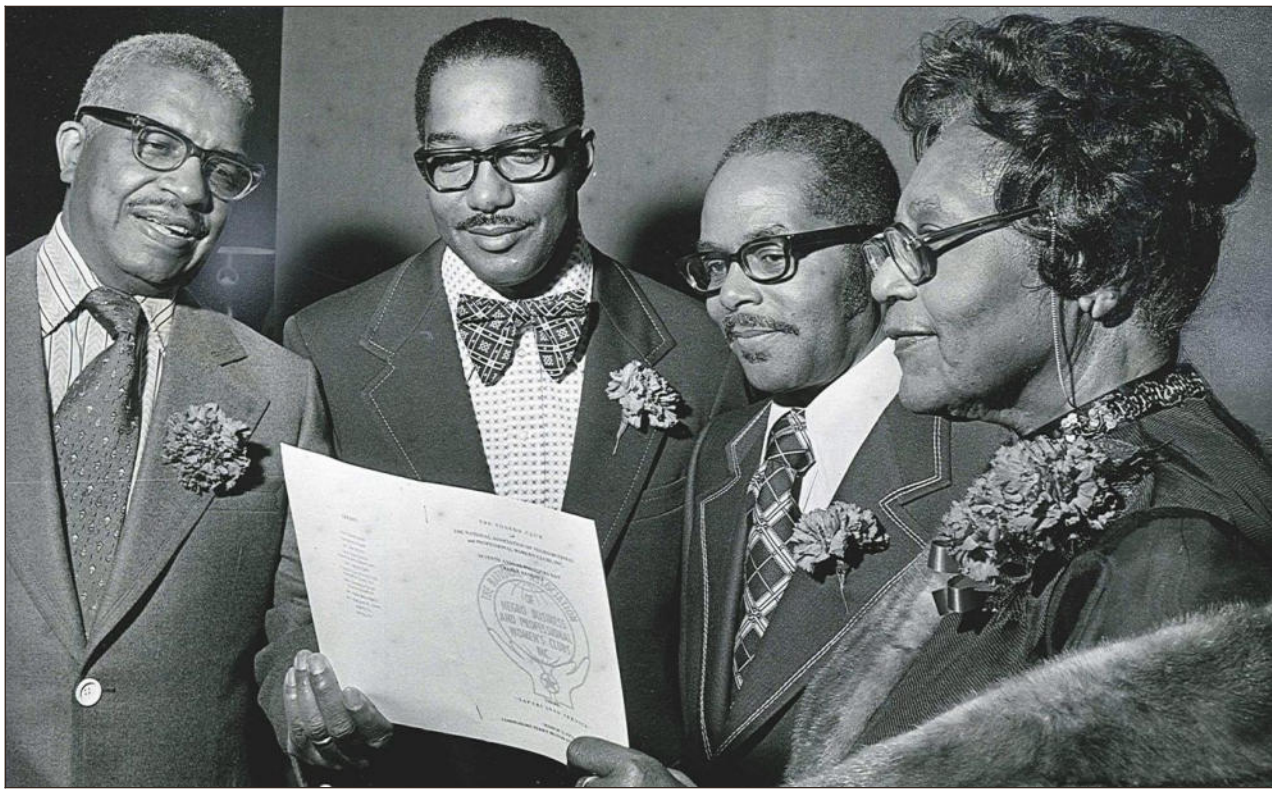
And the greatest thing about him was his voice — so conversational, so slowly seductive, somehow as easy to listen to as a talker at the bar while he takes you to hell and back. It comes across in every line. I heard him read when I was a student, shyly sought his autograph, and the rare richness of that voice has never left me. Patient, reasonable, and full of unmistakable human compassion, Mr. Biden too has heard it.

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The cure of Troy

Human beings suffer.
They torture one another.
They get hurt and get hard.
No poem or play or song
Can fully right a wrong
Inflicted and endured.
History says, Don't hope
On the side of the grave,
But then, once in a lifetime
The longed for tidal wave
Of justice can rise up
And hope and history rhyme.
So hope for a great sea-change
On the far side of revenge.
Believe that a further shore
Is reachable from here.
Believe in miracles.
And cures and healing wells.
Call miracle self-healing,
The utter self-revealing
Double-take of feeling.
If there's fire on the mountain
And lightning and storm
And a god speaks from the sky
That means someone is hearing
The outcry and the birth-cry
Of new life at its term.
It means once in a lifetime
That justice can rise up
And hope and history rhyme.

Insight



William "Bill" Brower, the first Black staff writer at The Toledo Blade, is shown in this March 4, 1974, photo with community leaders, from left, Percy Rankins, Charles Penn and Amelia Jones.

A Black reporter who traveled the country to report on racial conditions

Editor's Note: Few newspapers, other than exclusively Black newspapers like the Pittsburgh Courier and Chicago Defender, employed any Black reporters prior to World War II. Even as late as the 1950s, there were only 38 Black reporters among the 75,000 newsroom employees in "mainstream" white-owned papers. But The Toledo Blade was a leader.

Bill Brower joined The Blade in 1946, and stayed on staff as an award-winning reporter and editor for half a century.

The following is excerpted from "Reason vs. Racism, A Newspaper Family, Race, and Justice" by Jack Lessenberry, a former national editor of The Blade. It looks at how the issue of race has been handled by the Black family of newspaper owners since 1916.

By Jack Lessenberry

"I am a Negro. I am writing this at the conclusion of a three-month tour of 15,000 miles to all parts of the nation for a personal inquiry into the status of the 15,000,000 Americans who constitute what is called 'the Negro problem.'"

-- Bill Brower, Toledo Blade, December 1951

Those were the opening lines of one of the most stunning and perhaps most overlooked series in American journalism.

For 16 days, William "Bill" Brower's reports on racial conditions across the nation, from housing discrimination to school segregation, from hypocrisy in the North to the first glimmerings of an end to Jim Crow ran in both the Toledo Blade and the Pittsburgh Post-Gazette.

He had spent three months traveling throughout 27 states and visiting and interviewing people in more than 50 cities.

Nothing like this -- a nationwide look at racial conditions from the perspective of a Black journalist -- had ever been attempted by a daily, mass-market newspaper. The Blade had hired Brower more than four years earlier.

Brower, who had worked for African-American papers in eastern cities from Philadelphia to Norfolk, had agreed to come only after he had been promised that he would not be used to cover only "Negro News."

Indeed he hadn't. The editors had, as noted, assigned him to cover everything from routine stories to the city's battles against the Licavoli organized crime syndicate to an international sensation: the "Smith Act" trials of American Communist Party leaders in New York.

But who could resist a chance to tackle the race question, something that would soon be one of the biggest stories in the nation?

What isn't clear is exactly whose idea the series was -- though it likely came from

the publisher himself, Paul Block Jr. He thought, his son John Robinson Block told me, "that while race might be a problem America would never get beyond, he was determined to do the best he could to try."

Other newspapers had, from time to time, reported on race; Ray Sprigle, a white man disguised as a Negro, had, after all, reported on the most terrible abuses in the Jim Crow South only three years before.

But no mainstream newspaper had ever sent a Black reporter across the country to report on the status of Blacks in America.

Bill Brower was the first. However, readers who may have expected to find an investigative series as searing as Sprigle's "In the Land of Jim Crow" may have been disappointed. Brower had a very different style. He was cautious, reserved, judicious, and strove for balance. Brower, who was 35 when he made his own racial odyssey across America in the fall of 1951, was also a man of another generation. He had also grown up in the Jim Crow South, an upbringing designed to make a young Black man cautious -- or dead.

The world had also changed dramatically. The Soviet Union had exploded its first atom bomb; communists had captured all of China, and Americans found themselves in an unexpected shooting war in Korea.

These events helped lead to the rise one of the nation's most dangerous demagogues, Joe McCarthy, the junior senator from Wisconsin, who charged that "card-carrying communists" had infiltrated the federal government, though he never proved that anyone was a communist.

However, there was a racial dimension to the Red Scare. Moscow had used the oppression of Blacks in America as propaganda. Enlightened anti-communists worried that if blacks felt that the "American Dream" was closed to them, they might become vulnerable to outside agitators.

Brower clearly understood that the battle for hearts and minds was an issue. "Other Americans have a strong stake in seeing that democratic justice is achieved for Negroes," he wrote in his last installment. "This nation is locked in an ideological struggle with communism."

The series, which began on Dec. 5, 1951, was well-received. Toledo Blade managing editor Paul Schrader noted, when the series was republished in booklet form the next year, that it "has been applauded for its dispassionate objectivity, amazing facts, and calm conclusions."

Calm it was, certainly by comparison to Ray Sprigle's fiery prose. Brower's series was nominated for a Pulitzer Prize, just as Sprigle's series had been. And it, too, was

passed over. Oddly, no prize for national reporting was given at all for 1951.

Once again Hodding Carter II, the man who attacked Sprigle's series, sat on the Pulitzer board. Carter's attitude towards Bill Brower's work is not known. But, ironically, it might have served Carter's interests as a defender of his region to have called favorable attention to it.

Like Carter, Brower portrayed a South where there was injustice, but where things were getting better. In fact, read today, with the hindsight of what was to come in the bloody and turbulent years ahead, Brower's series often seems too optimistic. But Brower was far more accurate than Sprigle had been about discrimination in the North.

The author of "In the Land of Jim Crow" had said Northern prejudice against Blacks was an "annoyance and an injustice" at worst. Brower knew better. He knew there was "simmering racial antagonism" in Detroit. "The South never held the copyright on racial discrimination," he noted.

But overall, "I came back reassured and hopeful," Brower said.

While there were still problems, Brower said, "the climate is clearing for improved race relations in most places." More Blacks were voting, and nationally Blacks were making more money, he believed.

This is not to imply that Brower was what militant Blacks might have called an Uncle Tom. Consider this was a time when nobody was yet even using the term "civil rights movement." Martin Luther King Jr. was an unknown, 22-year-old seminary student.

Bill Brower was clearly striving to be a restrained, carefully objective reporter. By nature a reserved and dignified man, he must have felt under pressure; in a sense, he was sort of a Jackie Robinson of the white newspaper world. He had to pave the way for other Black reporters.

On some issues, especially housing, which he called the "key point of segregation," Brower took a more openly tough stand. He criticized Washington, noting that "the Federal Housing Administration has refused, in many instances, to approve loans for Negroes who desire to move into areas in which they are not wanted."

Brower, a North Carolina native, also made it clear that he had a hard time anywhere Jim Crow laws remained in force. "I was in and out of the South three times. I found that I had barely enough stamina to stand two weeks of Jim Crow at a time." While he felt things were changing, he "came across too many reminders of the past to make my stay entirely pleasant."

Those reminders included a bathtub in the "best



Negro hotel" in Raleigh, N.C., that was so filthy it "discouraged me from taking a bath."

But Brower had no great desire to dive into the worst parts of segregation. He had grown up living it.

Brower continued reporting for The Blade after his series ended, and his career made steady progress. In 1956 he returned to the topic of race with a series on Black voters. He became news editor in the turbulent year of 1968.

Three years later he moved into upper management, becoming an assistant managing editor in charge of the demanding Sunday edition, in terms of revenue, the most important paper of the week.

Twenty years had passed since his historic trip and his nationwide survey of racial attitudes and progress. The U.S. Supreme Court had unanimously outlawed mandatory segregation in schools. The civil rights movement had exploded into being.

Martin Luther King Jr. had appeared out of nowhere to become one of the most famous men in the world, and had been assassinated.

Congress had passed the Civil Rights Act of 1964, which outlawed segregation in everything from employment to housing in both the public and private sectors, and the next year passed the Voting Rights Act, so that no community could prevent Blacks from voting any longer.

But when it came to race, how much had things really changed?

To find out, The Blade sent Brower on the road again in late 1971. This time he didn't visit quite as many states or quite as many cities.

Still, it was a mammoth reporting odyssey, and he examined more issues in a series that was actually three installments longer than the first. As the newspaper noted, he "retraced his steps in virtually every region of the nation to put in perspective changes over two decades." He also went to some new places where, as he said, "newly important racial developments had occurred and where events are still stirring."

"Twenty years have made a difference, no doubt about it," he noted in his first installment on March 5, 1972. While he found that there had been "perceptible progress, both real and symbolic," he also concluded that "many of the basic problems remain," and added that "as a Black American moving about the nation, I perceived that the racial challenge in the seventies is far more complex than it was in the fifties."

There were more Black

millionaires, prominent artists, and recording stars. But many more were still struggling.

Brower noted that this trip, unlike his first, came "in an era when the national consciousness is centered on the struggle of black Americans for civil rights and equality like no other time in history."

Though he didn't acknowledge it in the series, there had been a fairly significant linguistic change as well. Only a few years before, Brower called himself a Negro. Now the preferred term was Black.

"Black America -- 20 Years Later" was more clearly issue-oriented than his first series. Brower analyzed how politics were changing in the South (he interviewed a young governor of Georgia named Jimmy Carter). He took on tough issues, including that of police brutality against Blacks, and the ugly reality of continued housing segregation.

He looked at the growing success of Blacks in politics. Twenty years before he had somewhat lionized U.S. Rep. William Dawson, D-Ill., one of only two Black congressmen in the nation. Twenty years later, he realized that Dawson, who by then was dead, had been mostly just a compliant cog in the vast Chicago city hall Democratic machine.

Looking at the complex issue of lingering segregation in schools, he wrote about an issue largely ignored elsewhere, that of the great number of Black teachers who lost their jobs as school systems merged.

There were a few odd omissions: He didn't mention that while more than two-thirds of all Black Americans lived in the South in 1951, by 1971 nearly half lived in the North. Overall, however, his second series is well-written, solid, occasionally fascinating, and more



The Blade

William "Bill" Brower is shown at work in the newsroom of The Toledo Blade in April 1961. Brower traveled the country writing about racial issues from the late 1940s to the early 1990s.

layered than his first.

Read today, "15,000,000 Americans," his 1951 series, offers a description of life so different from our time that it is stunning to realize that millions are still alive who actually lived in that world.

But much of "Black America -- 20 Years Later" still seems stunningly relevant. "There is great polarization today, physically and psychologically," Brower noted.

"Middle-class, elite, more affluent blacks are enjoying much improved social, economic, and leisure time conditions over their status twenty years ago. Some are following the relentless flow of whites... to the suburbs."

On the other hand, "I sensed a mood of despair and frustration, sometimes anger, among the ghetto masses ... poisoning the atmosphere."

While a Black journalist writing about civil rights was no longer novel, this series did win a citation from the Robert F. Kennedy Memorial Foundation. Later in the 1970s, Brower became an associate editor and part of The Blade's editorial board, then a senior editor.

In 1977, five years later, he reported and wrote a seven-part series, "The Black Athlete." Soon afterward, Brower began writing a column three times a week on subjects from Toledo's mercurial Mayor Corty Finkbeiner to Chicago's infamous Cabrini Green housing project.

But he wasn't quite done with reporting on his nation and race. Bill Brower had joined the Blade half a century after the U.S. Supreme Court's infamous Plessy v. Ferguson decision that made segregation legal. He was at the paper when Brown v. Board of Education reversed that decision in 1954, and a day in which, he wrote in his second series, "I jumped for joy."

Nearly half a century later in 1996, a full century after Plessy, Bill Brower, who would be 80 that fall, was still a columnist for the Blade. Forty-five years had passed since his first cross-country trip to take the nation's temperature on race; a quarter-century since the second.

And The Blade decided it was time to do it again.

Race was as important a story as ever, the editors knew. In the mid-1990s there had been new outbreaks of racist incidents.

So they decided to send Bill Brower to do a third series -- but this time he didn't go alone. He was accompanied by Eddie B. Allen Jr., the newspaper's energetic, 23-year-old urban affairs reporter, a recent graduate of Wayne State University in Detroit.

Some younger reporters might have rolled their eyes at having to play understudy to "grandpa." Thankfully, the men seemed to genuinely respect each other. Mr. Allen, who had covered the Million Man March in Washington, D.C., said that when he was asked to work with Brower on his third trek across the country he "considered it a high honor."

Brower said he was happy to work with Mr. Allen, noting that his "younger eyes and ears lend a fresh perspective to the issues and conditions still challenging the nation." This series was called "America in Black and White." Some of the territory covered was familiar -- the second-to-last installment dealt with discrimination, poverty and police corruption.

Some were new; an overdue look at the role of Black women in the community, and in politics. One story, written by Mr. Allen, would have been unimaginable in 1951 and unlikely in 1972 -- a look at the double discrimination Black gays and lesbians faced.

When it was over, Mr. Allen wrote that the experience was "a combination of journalism, history, sociology, and comedy." While at times his companion was "deadly serious in his approach to examining the issues that have affected his life" at other times he was like "the fun-loving mischievous child in the back of the classroom."

Bill Brower retired after the series' end. Belatedly, he finally began to be recognized for his remarkable career.

His final series won an award for best minority coverage from the Ohio chapter of the Society of Professional Journalists. NABJ, the National Association of Black Journalists, gave him a lifetime achievement award and cited him as one of the century's most influential black journalists.

Perhaps symbolically, Toledo's city council named a highway bridge after him. He was a bridge, after all, between not only generations, but eras.

Soon after he retired, Brower's health began to fail. He died on May 28, 2004. His wife Louise had died the year before. Both were buried in Toledo, their adopted home.

Bill Brower never knew that when he was reporting his first series there was a 9-year-old girl in Kansas who would someday be mother to the first Black man ever to sit in the oval office. Nor did he suspect that during his second series there was a 10-year-old African-American boy in Hawaii who one day would occupy the White House.

Barack Obama won the presidency four years after William Brower died, clinching victory with a big win in Toledo and a solid one in Ohio.

Maybe, just maybe, Brower's conscience-raising reporting played a part in getting America's first Black president there.

Books

How the GOP became the party of the LIE

By Timothy Lydon

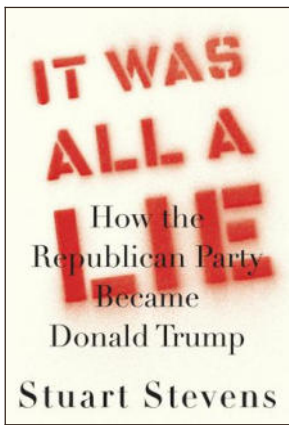
Donald Trump set a new standard for defeated presidents: refuse to concede, claim fraud with no evidence, attack election officials and challenge in court. And even when the allegations of fraud are the fraud, fellow party members in Congress will join in the disgrace. This should have surprised no one, writes Stuart Stevens, author of "It Was All a Lie: How the Republican Party Became Donald Trump." The 45th president did not change the GOP, Mr. Stevens argues, "as much as he gave the party permission to reveal its true self."

The nature and extent of Mr. Trump's influence on the Republican Party has become clear as only 17 Republican members of Congress — 10 in the House and seven in the Senate — voted to impeach the president for his role in the Jan. 6 siege on the Capitol. A party that claims to love the Constitution remains committed to a man who violated his oath of office to protect and

defend the Constitution by inciting a mob to intimidate Congress and steal the election based upon lies that he spread. But, hey, he cut the marginal tax rates for corporations.

"How do you abandon deeply held beliefs about character, personal responsibility, foreign policy and the national debt in a matter of months?" Mr. Stevens asks. The answer is that those beliefs were never deeply held. "In the end, the Republican Party rallied behind Mr. Trump because that was the deal needed to regain power."

The GOP used to be defined by Ronald Reagan, who made conservatives believe that words had meaning. Thanks to the scourge of Mr. Trump, Republicans now send a clear message that lying is useful and productive. Consider Missouri Sen. Josh Hawley. A GOP striver, he put his finger to the wind and decided that his political ascension in our feckless political climate would be best realized if he began promoting



"IT WAS ALL A LIE: HOW THE REPUBLICAN PARTY BECAME DONALD TRUMP"
By Stuart Stevens
Knopf (\$29)



Stuart Stevens

state law, Mr. Hawley signed onto an objection that he refused to actually defend on the Senate floor. If Mr. Hawley was as concerned with "election integrity" as he claimed, he would have looked straight into the C-SPAN camera and condemned the fact that Mr. Trump pressured the Georgia secretary of state to "find" him 11,780 votes.

Mr. Trump and the GOP have merged seamlessly, just as the real and unreal have become indistinguishable in the fantasyland of American politics. As the GOP's standard bearer, Mr. Trump spread lies, misinformation, paranoia and conspiracy theories, the acceptance of which by so many voters "is just one station in the slaughterhouse of truth that is the Trump presidency," Mr. Stevens writes. "Once there is no challenge to the craziest of ideas that have no basis in fact, it is easy for Mr. Trump to take one small bit of truth

and spin it into an elaborate fantasy."

The moral rot and nihilism at the core of the national GOP has been exposed, but there are popular Republican governors today in solidly Democratic states — Larry Hogan of Maryland, Phil Scott of Vermont and Charlie Baker of Massachusetts. The governors are "the last outposts of a dying civilization, the socially moderate, fiscally conservative Republican Party," Mr. Stevens writes. "Their greatest electoral difficulties lie not with the larger electorate but within their own party." The national GOP remained aloof to the success of these men as Mr. Trump gave tweets in the night.

The Republican Party once had clear values: fiscal responsibility, free trade, strength in its stance on Russia and moral character. The brazen indifference that Republicans have shown in abandoning these principles proves that Mr. Stevens was right, it's about power. And we know that when these principles were used as a cudgel against political opponents, it was all a lie.

Timothy Lydon is a freelance writer. Contact: tlydon2@gmail.com.

Bestsellers

HARDCOVER FICTION

- The Four Winds**, Kristin Hannah, St. Martin's, \$28.99
- The Vanishing Half**, Brit Bennett, Riverhead Books, \$27
- The Midnight Library**, Matt Haig, Viking, \$26
- The Paris Library**, Janet Skeslien Charles, Atria Books, \$28
- Hamnet**, Maggie O'Farrell, Knopf, \$26.95
- The Invisible Life of Addie LaRue**, V.E. Schwab, Tor, \$26.99
- Anxious People**, Fredrik Backman, Atria, \$28

HARDCOVER NONFICTION

- The Boy, the Mole, the Fox and the Horse**, Charlie Mackesy, HarperOne, \$22.99
- Caste**, Isabel Wilkerson, Random House, \$32
- Four Hundred Souls**, Ibram X. Kendi, Keisha N. Blain (eds.), One World, \$32
- Keep Sharp**, Sanjay Gupta, M.D., S&S, \$28
- A Promised Land**, Barack Obama, Crown, \$45
- Think Again**, Adam Grant, Viking, \$28
- A Swim in a Pond in the Rain**, George Saunders, Random House, \$28

— Indie Bestsellers List

Last Word

Contract Bridge

BY STEVE BECKER/A FALSE SENSE OF SECURITY

Playing hastily in bridge is analogous, in many ways, to the ancient proverb about marrying in haste and repenting at leisure. Today's deal provides a case in point.

Assume you're in three notrump and West leads a club. Dummy's six holds the first trick, and you apparently have nine sure tricks consisting of a spade, a heart, four diamonds and three clubs.

Lulled by this false sense of security into thinking that it's all over but the shouting, you try for an overtrick by taking a heart finesse at trick two, losing the queen to the king.

West returns the ten of hearts, and about this time it begins to dawn on you that there's some doubt about making nine tricks. The four diamond tricks you counted at the start are much easier to count than to cash. If you take the K-J, there will be no way to reach dummy's A-Q, while if you cash the king and then overtake the jack with the queen, you will make only three diamond tricks unless the ten falls. (In the actual deal it doesn't, so you finish down one.)

To make matters worse, you now realize where you went wrong. The fault goes back to trick one, when you won the club

lead with dummy's six and should have won with the ace! You could then have played the king of clubs, cashed the K-J of diamonds and led another club toward dummy's J-9. Whether West took his queen or not, the jack of clubs would be an entry to the A-Q of diamonds, and nine tricks would be assured.

Obviously, it's clear in retrospect that winning the opening club lead with the ace is correct, but you must give yourself enough time to think of it. If you play too hastily at trick one and allow dummy's six to win, you will, as the proverb says, have lots of time later to repent at your leisure.

East dealer.
North-South vulnerable.

NORTH
♠ 7 5
♥ 8 5 3
♦ A Q 9 2
♣ J 9 7 6

WEST
♠ J 8 4
♥ K 10 9
♦ 8 5 4
♣ Q 10 8 3

EAST
♠ K Q 9 2
♥ J 7 4 2
♦ 10 7 6 3
♣ 5

SOUTH
♠ A 10 6 3
♥ A Q 6
♦ K J
♣ A K 4 2

The bidding:
East Pass South 2 NT West Pass North 3 NT
Opening lead — three of clubs.

The New York Times Crossword

TODAY: SEALED WITH A KISS (0221)

Lisa Bunker, of Exeter, N.H., is the author of two novels for young readers — "Zenobia July," about a trans girl with a troubled past starting over with a new family and school, while tackling a cybermystery; and "Felix Yz," about a boy fused with an alien facing a risky procedure to separate them. Both were published by Viking. She also represents Exeter in the New Hampshire House of Representatives. This is Lisa's sixth puzzle for The Times and her first Sunday. — W.S.

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|--|---|---|---|
| ACROSS | 34 Born yesterday, so to speak | 64 "Do me this one favor ..." | 118 Greenish-brown |
| 1 Percussion instrument in a marching band | 36 Calm | 67 French vineyards | 119 ___ cake (dim sum dish) |
| 7 Prefix with sexual | 38 Comfy slip-on, in brief | 68 Prats | 120 Suffix with social |
| 10 Prefix with sexual | 39 What an outstretched arm with an open palm can mean | 69 Contrariwise | 121 "Wheel of Fortune" freebies |
| 14 Animals in a pod | 41 Fleet org. | 71 North African capital | 122 Sharp |
| 19 Start of a playground taunt | 42 It means business | 72 Nongendered, as language: Abbr. | 123 Label for Otis Redding and Isaac Hayes |
| 20 Kitchen brand with a palindromic name | 43 Stakes | 73 Sui ___ | 124 Latin king |
| 21 What an article may come with? | 44 Narrow | 74 Kind of dash | 125 Sea lion, for one |
| 22 Drain, as from soil | 46 Group tour vehicle | 76 Best Supporting Actor winner for "Dallas Buyer's Club" | DOWN |
| 23 Fatsis who wrote "Word Freak" | 49 Playground comeback | 77 Prefix with friendly | 1 Word with sound or solar |
| 24 Most feathery, as clouds | 52 Build up | 79 Rules out? | 2 Few |
| 26 "Thong Song" singer, 2000 | 53 Sci-fi publisher of "Ender's Game" and "The Wheel of Time" | 80 West Coast beer brand, in brief | 3 See 57-Across |
| 27 Sharp, in a way | 54 Popular beer brand, briefly | 81 "___ ruled the world ..." | 4 Subsequent versions |
| 28 Early tie | 57 With 3-Down, one of the Avengers | 83 : | 5 Thurman of "Kill Bill" |
| 30 The ones over here | 59 ___ smear | 86 Capital of Yemen | 6 Word before and after "a" |
| 32 In the capacity of | 61 Reduced | 87 Kind of modern office plan | 7 Turned on |
| 33 Some Ivy Leaguers | 63 Opposite of a | 89 Smell of a rose | 8 Kind of symmetry |
| | | 92 Smell of a rosé | 9 A pretty capable sort |
| | | 95 ___ Fridays | 10 Singer DiFranco |
| | | 96 Barrister's deg. | 11 Big name in bubbly |
| | | 97 Bench tool | 12 Small woodland songbird |
| | | 99 Quibble | 13 "Town square for the global village of tomorrow," per Bill Gates |
| | | 101 Student's bonus points | 14 Jimmy of the Daily Planet |
| | | 103 Drawn-out campaigns | 15 L.L. Bean competitor |
| | | 105 When doubled, another name for dorado | 16 Medieval helmet |
| | | 106 Call ___ night | 17 Exonerator |
| | | 107 Eighth letter | 18 Prime snorkeling spots |
| | | 109 British tennis champ who invented the sweatband | 25 Like many stuffed animals |
| | | 111 ___ impasse | 29 PX shopper |
| | | 112 Guardian spirits | |
| | | 114 Especially | |
| | | 116 Soubise sauce is | |

Last week's answers

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

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122																					123			124				125		

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|--|--|------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| 31 The Quran, for one | 54 water sprite | 71 Bank posting | 93 Field-plowing duo |
| 35 Mango Madness and Go Bananas, for two | 55 Outcast | 73 Words after throwing a ball | 94 Poem piece |
| 37 Ones initiating handoffs, for short | 56 Out of focus | 75 Grams | 97 Notable point in geometry |
| 39 Some mattresses | 57 Surface anew, say | 77 Unbalance | 98 U.N. member since 1949: Abbr. |
| 40 Indulgence | 58 Post production | 82 Packaging list | 100 Glittery decoration |
| 45 Capital of French Polynesia | 59 Without a doubt | 84 "L'chaim!" | 102 Listing |
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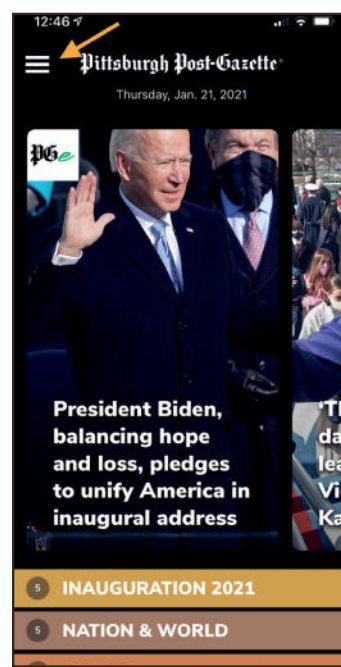


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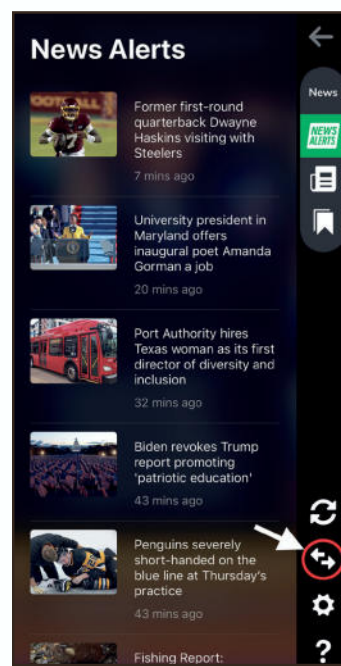
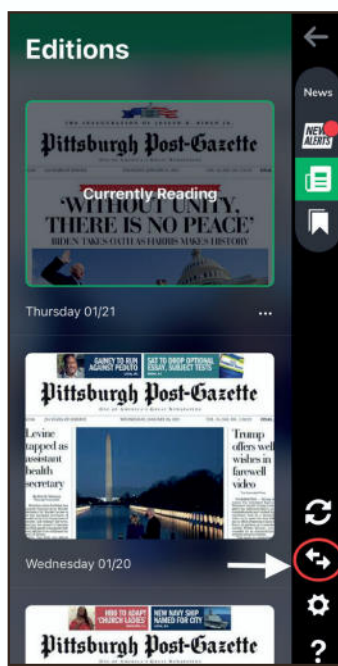
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Pam Panchak/Post-Gazette photos

Jonathan Moran, 50, of Penn, Butler County, has been working with wood since he was a teenager. He has hundreds of hand tools in his shop.



Jonathan Moran scooped this chair out of a single mahogany plank in his workshop in Butler. He often naps in it.

Against the grain

Craftsman Jonathan Moran reclaims old wood's beauty

By Gretchen McKay
Pittsburgh Post-Gazette

Jonathan Moran has an artist's way with wood, and it's probably because he's been working with it since he was about 12 years old.

His father, Donald Moran, ran his own flooring business for more than 30 years and also owned The Settler Shop antiques store in Butler. As a high schooler, he loved to help his dad scour auctions and flea markets for hidden treasures, and he was a quick learner when it came to carpentry.

Soon he was helping his father repair or refinish items that needed a little TLC before being tagged for sale.

Saws, lathes, shapers, routers — the Bellevue native never met a tool he didn't fall in love with, or a technique he couldn't master.

"I just really took a shine to it," says Moran, 50, of Penn, Butler County.

Still, he didn't make wood-working his career until his mid-20s, after marrying his high school sweetheart, Mindy,

SEE **WOOD**, PAGE E-2

Delana Flowers channels Sojourner's truth, spirit

By Tyler Dague
Pittsburgh Post-Gazette

Actor Delana Flowers was surprised by how little she knew about Sojourner Truth.

She learned many facts about the powerful equal rights activist after she was cast to portray her in Richard LaMonte Pierce's one-woman show "Sojourner" for Beechview-based theater company Prime Stage.

The famous memoirist's first language was Dutch, not English. As a slave, she endured many hardships at the hands of a cruel family and didn't know how to read or write. Yet her message of advancing Black Americans and women has continued to resonate.

"It made me realize that Sojourner Truth is a name that we know, and she's part of history and a legend," Flowers said. "But we don't really know a whole lot outside of that. There's no reason we shouldn't be talking about her more and the impact that she had."

The show began streaming online Feb. 12 and continues

through Feb. 26 at primestage.com. Tickets are pay-what-you-can per household and start at \$5.

Prime Stage will also host a live webinar with Sojourner Truth's great-great-grandsons, Thomas and Cory McIlechee, at 1 p.m. Sunday. There will be an opportunity for the public to submit questions during the conversation.

Flowers came to acting later than many, having not seen a show prior to a role as a senior in a high school musical, "Little Shop of Horrors." She was "smitten."

"I actually started out singing," she said. "I grew up singing in church, and I was kind of an outcast. I wasn't popular. But when I would sing, people would listen to me. That's what drew me to performing. I felt like I was being heard."

A native of Lancaster, Pa., she is the daughter of a pastor who came to Pittsburgh to lead a church. She had been laid off from her job when she accepted her father's invitation to work at the church. She didn't want to stay in her hometown.



Matt Freed/Post-Gazette

Pittsburgh actor Delana Flowers portrays Sojourner Truth in a filmed one-woman show, "Sojourner," for Prime Stage.

BLACK HISTORY MONTH

"Lancaster is very small, which was why I knew I wouldn't stay there," she said. "[Pittsburgh] was a huge cultural difference. There was so much more to do and so much more to get involved in. There were several theaters to choose from. I started singing with several bands,

singing at several churches."

Flowers has performed with several local theater companies, including the Hiawatha Project, Front Porch Theatricals, Pittsburgh Musical Theater and Stage 62. She has also worked as a teaching artist to help pay the bills between gigs. Through teaching, she was able to learn from other faculty and students and experience musicals such as "The Color Purple."

Since the pandemic, acting roles have been hard to come by.

SEE **TRUTH**, PAGE E-2

Sunday Magazine changes bring you more homes, deeds

Don't you like to get more? Starting this Sunday, you will find more in the Sunday Magazine and Home and Garden and Real Estate.

Living Here, a feature on interesting and unique rental properties, has alternated with our popular Buying Here, which highlights houses for sale. Living Here, which appears on E-4, will now be a weekly feature exploring apartments and other living spaces at all price points.

The deeds transfers, another draw for anyone curious about what properties are selling for in Allegheny and surrounding counties, will get a little more real estate, so to speak. Look for more space devoted to property sales in coming weeks.

John Hayes' Outdoors coverage, meanwhile, will move. The Fishing Report will appear in our Weekend Sports section on Saturdays and Outdoors stories will appear in the Magazine and other sections throughout the week. Look for the Outdoors tag in print and online at www.post-gazette.com.

— Kevin Kirkland, Post-Gazette

He brings out beauty, natural art in old wood

WOOD, FROM E-1

and starting a family. It took years for him to discover his passion for creating artisan products from reclaimed wood and found items. Since 2015, he has wowed shoppers as famous as Cate Blanchett at JTHN. Moran Woodworks in the Strip District.

He competed as a professional mountain biker while attending Point Park College but quickly found there's not a lot of money in racing. So in 1992, after leaving school, he opened a bicycle messenger service delivering packages and mail in and around the city.

All the while, he did carpentry on the side while slowly building one of the best-equipped one-man workshops in Western Pennsylvania. Filled with hundreds of hand tools and more than a dozen machine tools, it takes up 2,000 square feet on the lower level of a century-old barn on Route 8 in Butler that has housed everything from a tack shop to a bakery and antiques store.

Moran's first shop behind his house in Butler was more modest, but he still was able to work his magic. Then he did mostly kitchen jobs and custom cabinetry, like a giant bar and back bar with mantels that he built for a customer when he was just starting out. People liked his work, and by 2000, he was woodworking full time.

His career took a turn toward custom furniture around 2010. In the Strip District one day with his wife, he decided to check out the Pittsburgh Public Market in the historic produce terminal on Smallman Street. "I



Gretchen McKay/Post-Gazette

Steel doors salvaged from a jail in Meadville and leaded windows from Construction Junction will become part of future projects by Jonathan Moran.



Pam Panchak/Post-Gazette

Mindy Moran runs the business side of Jonathan Moran Woodworks, which has a shop in the Strip District.

saw there were all these little vendors and booths, and I thought I could make some small things to sell."

His striped multiwood cutting boards, natural end

tables and shelves — all made from reclaimed and sustainably sourced lumber — were so popular that people were soon asking him for custom orders.

Business was even better at the market's 2013 location in a former warehouse on Penn Avenue. When the market closed two years later, the couple, who by now had three sons, had to make a decision: wait until the market reopened or move to their own space.

In a leap of faith, they rented a former nightclub space in the Pennsylvania Building on 19th Street, filled it with an array of his gorgeous, hand-crafted pieces and stylish accessories, "and we've been there ever since," says Mrs. Moran, who runs the store.

Around the same time, they bought the barn in Butler and started the slow process of renovating it as his workshop, a second showroom and event space. This will be his third summer working there full time.

Even in its in-between state, the barn is a haven for lovers of history and architectural antiques. Moran

has filled it with an eclectic mix of industrial pieces, wooden cabinets, metal chair frames, antique signs and toys, artwork and even a 4-foot-tall wooden Indian that once graced a lumber yard in eastern Pennsylvania.

There are so many planks of reclaimed wood and barn siding stacked against the wall that the Moran children have given their dad a new nickname. "They call me the wood hoarder," he says with a laugh.

Locals call him when an old barn is coming down or a building is being demolished, and more than once he and his wife have picked up a craft-worthy piece of wood they've happened upon during a hike.

Some pieces are odes to his family. A painting depicting a Native American overlooking the point of land that would become Pittsburgh hangs above Moran's desk on the first floor. It was painted in 1971 by his grandfather, Jacob Dosch, who worked as a salesman for Crucible Steel Co. For years the painting hung above his mother's fireplace. "Everyone wanted it," he says, laughing.

His workshop is decorated with art by his sister, Regina Rosario, including a painting of his wife when she was nine months pregnant with their youngest son, Liam, now a high school senior.

He often works two or three pieces of machinery or scrap metal gleaned from old steel mills and other industrial sites into his designs. A grinder base might become a pedestal for a table; an old card catalog will be fashioned into a desk drawer. Just to the left of his desk stand two ancient steel doors a friend got from a jail in Meadville. One has a tiny meshed window in the middle for prisoners in solitary confinement to receive meals.

"It's going to be used for something," he says, even if he's not yet sure what.

He finds inspiration in the

work of Wharton Esherick, a Valley Forge sculptor who was known for his free-form curvilinear shapes. He's also a disciple of master woodworker George Nakashima, who favored free-form, natural edge table tops and exquisite hand-rubbed finishes.

A chair tucked in a dusty corner that he likes to nap in is a perfect example: He "scooped" it from a single plank of mahogany.

That, actually, is what sets Moran apart. Every piece is unique, with a "wow" factor. They also are sustainable, made either from reclaimed items and upcycled wood or trees that have been recently felled. He designs every item himself, a process that can take days or even months. His favorite medium is walnut because it's easy to work with and has a gorgeous grain, but he works with almost any hardwood except oak.

Many woodworkers specialize in a certain item, say tables or chairs. He's game for anything, and as such has made some crazy stuff over the years. One customer wanted 100 handmade hangers for his expensive suits and another had him create a display for his Samurai sword collection. It's the odd-ball items, he says, that keeps it interesting.

"He's an artist" who puts his heart into every piece, says his wife, recalling how he once worked a heart intertwined with a customer's initials into a fireplace mantel.

What he loves about his job is the freedom to be creative, push boundaries and do what makes him happy. He likens it to a child that needs constant nurturing.

"It's our passion," he says. "If you're not passionate about what you do, it's not going to work."

Jonathan Moran Woodworks is at 108 19th St., Strip District. Information: 724-504-7869 or jthn-moran.com.

Gretchen McKay: gmc-kay@post-gazette.com, 412-264-1419 or on Twitter/IG @gtmckay.

"It was with great pride and admiration that I read and later shared with friends your wonderful piece."

- Pat Biesecker, retired Woodland Hills High School administrator during Cara Sapida's student days



Look for more good news stories every Sunday in the **goodness** section of the Pittsburgh Post-Gazette.

goodness

Celebrating all that's good.

Pittsburgh Post-Gazette

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Peter Diana/Post-Gazette

Actor Delana Flowers says the pandemic gave her a chance to sharpen her skills.

She brings Sojourner Truth's spirit — and straight, strong back — to stage

TRUTH, FROM E-1

But she has found some silver linings. The time off allowed her to sharpen her skills and take classes with an acting coach.

"Because we have to adapt often ... I think it's the artists and creatives that have thrived the most during this time," Flowers said. "Because we are used to creative problem solving, and that's what we had to do."

Sojourner Truth's work for justice is especially timely amid calls for racial equity in the wake of George Floyd's death in police custody last year. When she escaped from slavery in New York, her name was Isabella Bomfree. Her calling as a traveling Christian preacher led her to change her name.

As her travels brought her into contact with abolitionists and women's rights advocates, her speeches became political as well as spiritual. Her most famous speech, "Ain't I a Woman," electrified the Ohio Women's Rights Convention in 1851 and made her nationally known. She continued to advocate for equality during

and after the Civil War.

"Sojourner" comes 25 years after Prime Stage's first produced play, "A Woman Called Truth" by Sandra Fenichel Asher. Flowers said the spirit of Sojourner Truth shows the need to keep pressing on.

"A lot of those struggles are still happening. In a lot of ways, we're still fighting for equality even among the sexes, not just racial.

"I think it's sad that we're still having these conversations. There's some things I hear, and I'm like, 'We're still talking about that? That still has to be said?' Unfortunately, the answer is yes."

Portraying her reminded Flowers of the "strength and resilience" of her forebears, she said, especially her grandmother.

Director Linda Haston did not want to depict the historical figure as "decrepit and hunched over." Flowers found photographs of Sojourner Truth and accounts from others remarking on her straight posture. She immediately thought of her grandmother Annie Flowers.

Seven years ago, Flowers

had to watch as her grandmother, who was dying of a brain tumor, slowly lost independence and ability to speak.

"Even in the midst of all that, her body failing, right up until the day she died, her posture was always perfect," Flowers said. "Just completely straight. Very dignified. Just this confident grace."

She said she was dedicating her performance to her grandmother and channeling her, believing she was with her on "this journey."

"I really feel like both Sojourner and my grandmother have given me great examples of what it means to stand in my power as a woman, as a Black woman, and to look adversity in the face with my shoulders squared and just hit it head on.

"I'm grateful for that legacy living on in me, and having the opportunity to share that legacy with the audience."

Tyler Dague: rda-gue@post-gazette.com, 412-263-1569 and on Twitter/@tdague.



Elizabeth Tulloch as Lois Lane and Tyler Hoechlin as Clark Kent/Superman in The CW's "Superman & Lois."

Television shows you'll want to watch this week

"Superman & Lois" — Behold yet another TV twist on the Man of Steel and the comic books' most famous journalist. In the 90-minute opening episode, Clark Kent (Tyler Hoechlin) and Lois Lane (Elizabeth Tulloch) move to idyllic Smallville with their twin teen sons, Jonathan and Jordan. There, they find themselves dealing with all the stress, pressures and complexities that come with being working parents in today's society. It doesn't help, of course, that a mysterious otherworldly stranger (Wolé Parks) is about to enter their lives. The premiere will be immediately followed by a new special, "Superman & Lois: Legacy of Hope." (8 p.m. Tuesday, The CW).

Other bets
Sunday: "The Vaccine: Conquering COVID" is a new special that takes a deep dive into the race for, and distribution of, a vaccine to put an end to the coronavirus crisis. It includes interviews with health care experts, scientists and early trial volunteers involved in the historic effort. (8 p.m., Discovery; also streaming on Discovery+).

Monday: Eleven highly creative contestants are ready to whip up all kinds of sweet treats in a new season of the "Spring Baking Championship." The good news is that watching the show from your sofa does not lead to extra calories. (9 p.m., Food Network).

Tuesday: Ready for a "Tool Time" reunion? In "Assembly Required," Tim Allen and Richard Karn, who starred together in "Home Improvement," welcome talented makers who compete to create mind-blowing builds. Among their crazy inventions: a combo ice melter/leaf blower and a bar-

TV picks

becue bicycle. (10 p.m., History).
Wednesday: "I help the dogs no one else will," declares Oakland dog trainer Jas Leverette in "Canine Intervention." The new series follows Leverette as he uses his distinctive methods to help pooches — and their owners — correct a variety of behavioral issues so they can lead a harmonious life. (Netflix).

Thursday: Holy macanoli, "Punky Brewster" is back! In this continuation of the popular 1980s sitcom, our title character (Soleil Moon Frye) is now a single mother of three trying to get her life back on track after a recent divorce. Then she meets Izzy (Quinn Copeland), a young girl in the foster system who reminds Punky a lot of her younger self. (Peacock).

Friday: As the blood feud between Elizabeth and Red continues on "The Blacklist," the Task Force investigates the apparent disappearance of a defense contractor. Meanwhile, Cooper receives an unexpected offer and Red makes a connection. (8 p.m., NBC).

Saturday: Inspired by actual events, the TV film "Girl in the Basement" tells the horrific story of Sara (Stefanie Scott), a vibrant teen girl who was looking forward to her 18th birthday so she could move out and see the world. But her creepy father (Judd Nelson) traps her for years in a secret basement bomb shelter where he rapes and impregnates her. (8 p.m., Lifetime).
Email Chuck Barney at cbarney@baryareanews.com.

TV highlights

SUNDAY
7:30 p.m. on WPGH
Bless the Harts
 Jenny (voice of Kristen Wiig) lets Louise (voice of guest star Emily Spivey) use Wayne (voice of Ike Barinholtz) as a pretend boyfriend after her husband dies in a tragic cruise ship accident. Elsewhere, while Betty (voice of Maya Rudolph) makes a guest appearance on Violet's (voice of Jillian Bell) podcast, she blurts out some murder accusations.
MONDAY
9 p.m. on HBO
Beartown
 When a small-town Swedish junior ice-hockey team has a shot at winning the national semi-finals, the residents of their local community start putting all their own frustrated hopes and dreams on the shoulders of this handful of teenage boys in this five-episode drama series from Sweden. That heavy emotional burden eventually becomes the catalyst for a violent act that leaves a young girl traumatized and a town churning with complex emotions.

TUESDAY
10:01 p.m. on WPXI
Nurses
 As Wolf (Donald MacLean Jr.) teeters on the edge of a financial abyss, he feels pressure to steal more drugs, which thrusts him into a grave ethical dilemma that threatens his patient. Meanwhile, as Ashley (Natasha Calis) tries to ensure the safety of her patient before a major operation, she feels compelled to confront Sinead (Cathy White) about her drinking problem.
WEDNESDAY
8:30 p.m. on WTAE
American Housewife
 As the 100th episode of his podcast, "Getting Frank With Franklin," rolls around, Franklin (Evan O'Toole) invites the entire Otto family to be his guests, but after watching the intrusive style he employs with others in the house, Katie (Katy Mixon) vows to keep her own interview light. That becomes a lot harder, though, when Katie's button-pushing mom, unexpectedly joins her.

THURSDAY
8:31 p.m. on KDKA
B Positive
 Drew and Gina (Thomas Middle-ditch, Annaleigh Ashford) start pondering what the future may hold for them after Jerry (recurring guest star David Anthony Higgins) gets a call notifying him that he will soon get a new kidney.
FRIDAY
9 p.m. on LIFE
Little Women: Atlanta
 After losing their sister Minnie in a tragic accident, the Atlanta ladies come together to honor and celebrate her too-brief time with them.

SATURDAY
8 p.m. on TCM
Movie: Dances With Wolves
 Kevin Costner's 1990 Western about a white man who goes to live with American Indians and learns to appreciate their way of



The identity of the featured celebrity is found within the answers in the puzzle. In order to take the TV Challenge, unscramble the letters noted with asterisks within the puzzle.

ACROSS

- Role on "Mom"
- Actor Stonestreet
- India's New ___
- Fannies
- Suffix for Vietnam or Japan
- ___-Pro"; Will Ferrell movie
- Tuck's partner, in phrase "___ the World Turns"
- Walker of "Chicago Fire"
- Vanna White's state of birth: abbr.
- "The ___ Housewives of Beverly Hills"
- Dog on "The Thin Man"
- Madame in Madrid
- Prefix with light
- Luau dish
- Egg layer
- Hand-___; tailor-made
- Actor Brody
- "Touched by ___ Angel"
- Number of Waltons in the family home
- "As ___ sow, so shall ..."
- Actor ___T
- "___ Movie"; 2007 Kal Penn film
- "___ Doll"; 1964 Four Seasons hit
- Evil spirit
- Goldie's family
- Gallops
- Fashion designer Cassini

DOWN

- Actor on "Chicago Fire" (2)
- Suffix for infant or text
- Hagman's initials
- One of the Simpsons
- Actress Moran
- Prefix for heat or play
- Actor McShane
- Role on "Grey's Anatomy" (2)
- "Yes, ___"
- Animal protection organization
- Character in "The Wizard of Oz"
- "___ Better Blues"; Denzel Washington film
- Role on "Seinfeld"
- Fillion of "Castle"
- "Pretty Maids All in ___"; Rock Hudson film
- Ingrid Bergman's nation of birth: abbr.
- "Enough ___"; Julia Louis-Dreyfus movie
- Ryan and Tilly
- Camera's eye
- Initials for Lisa Marie's dad
- "Star Wars: Episode ___ - Return of the Jedi"
- Repeated sound
- Very large bird
- Emerson's monogram
- "Homicide: Life ___ the Street"
- Peggy Bundy's man



life won Oscars for best picture and best director. Costner stars as John Dunbar, a decorated Union soldier who wants a remote

outpost in the Dakotas, where he is the only white man around. He slowly gets to know and admire the indigenous people.

SUNDAY	MOVIES	SPORTS	KIDS	NEWS	TALK			
	8	8:30	9	9:30	10	10:30	11	11:30
2 KDKA	The Equalizer (N) (CC)	Judgment Day.	NCIS: Los Angeles Callen gets detained. (N)	NCIS: New Orleans A 14-year-old is kidnapped. (N)	News at Eleven (N)	Cochran Sports		
4 WTAE	American Idol 402 (Auditions).	Auditions across California continue. (N) (CC)	The Rookie Chen considers doing undercover work. (N)	Action News 4 (N)	Action News 4 (N)			
6 WJAC	The Wall (CC)	Dateline NBC Thomas Randolph strikes back. (N) (CC)	News (N)	Attkisson (N)				
7 WTRF	The Equalizer (N) (CC)	NCIS: Los Angeles (N)	NCIS: New Orleans (N)	News	NCIS: N.O.			
8 WWCP	Simpson (N) The-North	Burgers (N) Fam Guy (N)	FOX 8 (N)	Storm of Suspicion (N)	The First 48			
9 WTOV	The Wall (CC)	Dateline NBC Thomas Randolph strikes back. (N) (CC)	News (N)	Sports Sun.				
10 WTAJ	The Equalizer (N) (CC)	NCIS: Los Angeles (N)	NCIS: New Orleans (N)	News (N)	2 Broke Girls			
11 WPXI	The Wall Debbie and Ghadir take on the Wall.	Dateline NBC The Widower: Episode 3. Thomas Randolph strikes back. (N) (CC)	Channel 11 News at 11 (11:35)	The Final Word (11:35)				
13 WQED	Miss Scarlet and the Duke on Masterpiece (N) (CC)	All Creatures Great and Small on Masterpiece The Night Before Christmas. (N)	Beyond the CANVAS	Thou Shalt Not Kill (CC)				
16 WJNP	Blue Bloods (CC)	Blue Bloods (CC)	Blue Bloods (CC)	Blue Bloods (CC)				
19 WPCW	Batwoman Batwoman must boost a work of art. (N)	Charmed The gang encounters a new obstacle. (N)	10 O'Clock News (N)	The Nightly Sports Call	NCIS: New Orleans Wade's son asks Pride for help.			
21 WFMJ	The Wall (CC)	Dateline NBC Thomas Randolph strikes back. (N) (CC)	News (N)	Edition (N)				
22 WPNT	Marketplace Pittsburgh	Seinfeld The Maid. (CC)	To the Rescue (N)	Ring of Honor Wrestling (N) (CC)	Prostate Health	Paid Program		
27 WKBN	The Equalizer (N) (CC)	NCIS: Los Angeles (N)	NCIS: New Orleans (N)	First News	NCIS: N.O.			
33 WYTV	American Idol Auditions across California continue. (N)	The Rookie (N)	Castie (CC)					
40 WPCB	Rod Parsley Manna-Fest/Perry Stone	Prophetic Connection	Jack Van Impe	Prophecy Watchers	Joyce Meyer Humanitarian	Move Your Mountain (CC)		
43 WUAB	Batwoman (N) (CC)	Charmed (N) (CC)	News (N)	Sports Extra	Edition (N)	Raw Trav.		
53 WPGH	The Simpsons (N)	The Great North (N)	Bob's Burgers (N)	Family Guy (N)	Channel 11 News on FOX 53 at 10 (N) (CC)	The Big Bang Theory	Two and a Half Men	
59 WEPA	Munsters	Munsters	Roseanne	Roseanne	Roseanne	The Nanny	The Nanny	

PREMIUM CABLE								
HBO	"Independence Day" (6:30) (1996) *** (CC)	Allen v. Farrow (N) (CC)	Allen v. Farrow (Part 1 of 4) (CC)	Last Week To. (N)	Allen v. Farrow (CC)			
HBO/2	The Lady and the Dale Celestial Bodies. (CC)	"Walk of Shame" (2014) * Elizabeth Banks, James Marsden. (CC)	"Win a Date With Tad Hamilton!" (10:35) (2004) ** Kate Bosworth. (CC)					
HBO/FAM	"The Call of the Wild" (7) (CC)	"Cats" (8:40) (2019) * Taylor Swift, Idris Elba, Judi Dench. (CC)	"Godzilla: King of the Monsters" (2019) ** Kyle Chandler. (CC)					
HBO/SIG.	"Be Cool" (7) (2005) ** John Travolta.	"Grudge Match" (2013) ** Robert De Niro. Retired boxing rivals return to the ring for one last fight.	"Billy Elliot" (10:55) (2000) ** Julie Walters.					
MAX	"Walk the Line" (2005) *** Joaquin Phoenix. The story of music legends Johnny Cash and June Carter Cash. (CC)	"A Walk Among the Tombstones" (10:17) (2014) ** Liam Neeson. (CC)						
SHO	The Circus: Inside (N)	The Circus: Inside	Shameless (N) (CC)	Supervillain: The Making of Tekashi 6ix9ine (N) (CC)	Dessus & Mero (N)	Supervillain		
STARZ	American Gods Shadow makes himself at home. (N)	Men in Kilts (N)	The Luminaries Lydia and Carver hatch a plan. (N)	American Gods (10:31) Conscience of The King.	Men in Kilts: A Roadtrip			
STARZ-E	"Carlito's Way" (6:34) (1993) *** (CC)	"The Cookout" (2004) * Ja Rule, Tim Meadows, Jenifer Lewis. (CC)	"Zero Dark Thirty" (2012) *** Jessica Chastain, Jason Clarke. (CC)					
STZENC	"Courage Under Fire" (7) (1996) *** (CC)	"Lara Croft: Tomb Raider" (2001) ** Angelina Jolie, Iain Glen. (CC)	"Van Helsing" (10:44) (2013) ** Hugh Jackman, Kate Beckinsale. (CC)					
STZ/ENCL	"Fantastic Four: Rise of the Silver Surfer" (7:26)	"Hellboy" (2004) *** Ron Perlman, John Hurt. The son of the devil fights paranormal creatures. (CC)	"Hulk" (11:04) (2003) ** Eric Bana. (CC)					
STZ/ENCW	"Man From Del Rio" (8:03) (1956) ** Anthony Quinn. (CC)	"Broken Lance" (9:27) (1954) *** Spencer Tracy. (CC)	"Trooper Hook" (11:05) (1957) ** (CC)					
STZ/ENSU	"Two for the Money" (6:55) (2005) ** (CC)	"Slaughterhouse Rulez" (2018) Simon Pegg, Finn Cole, Asa Butterfield. (CC)	"The Butterfly Effect" (10:45) (2004) ** Ashton Kutcher. (CC)					
TMC	"First Cow" (2019) *** John Magaro. Two men plan to use a prized dairy cow to make a fortune.	"Morris From America" (10:05) (2016) ** Craig Robinson. (CC)	"Green Book" (2018)					

BASIC, EXPANDED AND DIGITAL CABLE								
A&E	"Walking Tall" (2004) ** The Rock. A sheriff and a deputy try to rid their town of thugs. (CC)	"Taken 2" (10:01) (2012) ** Liam Neeson. A vengeful father abducts Bryan Mills and his wife. (CC)						
AMC	"Now You See Me" (6:30) ** Premiere. (CC)	The Walking Dead (N) (CC)	"Now You See Me" (10:04) (2013) ** Jesse Eisenberg, Mark Ruffalo, Woody Harrelson. (CC)					
ANIM	Lone Star Law (N)	Lone Star Law (9:01) (N)	Lone Star Law (10:02)	Lone Star Law (11:01)				
ATSP	Baseball	Baseball	Bensinger	Poker Night	Heartland Poker Tour (N)	Alpha 8		
BBC	"A Few Good Men" (1992) *** Tom Cruise, Jack Nicholson. (CC)	"Robin Hood-of-Thieves"						
BET	Boiling Point L.A. Riots. (N)	Disrupt & Dismantle (N)	"Welcome Home Roscoe Jenkins" (2008) **					
BRAVO	The Real Housewives of Atlanta (N) (CC)	Watch What (N)	Bravo's Chat Room (N)	Chrisley Knows Best	Chrisley Knows Best	Chrisley Knows Best	Chrisley Knows Best	
CMT	"The Guardian" (2006) ** Kevin Costner, Ashton Kutcher, Sela Ward. (CC)	"The Italian Job" (2003)						
CNBC	Shark Tank (CC)	Shark Tank (CC)	Shark Tank (CC)	Shark Tank (CC)				
CNN	Stanley Tucci: Searching	Stanley Tucci (N)	Lincoln: Divided We (N)	State-Union-Jake Tapper				
COM	"Dumb & Dumber" (7:15) (1994) *** (CC)	"Hot Tub Time Machine" (2010) ** (CC)						
C-SPAN	Q & A (CC)	Public Affairs Events (CC)	Q & A (CC)					
DEST	Holmes on Homes A crumbling concrete foundation.	Holmes on Homes Fixing a structural mess.	Holmes on Homes	Holmes on Homes A retaining wall bowed dramatically.				
DFC	Extreme Makeover: Home Edition Farina Family.	Extreme Makeover: Home Edition Koepke Family.	Extreme Makeover: Home Edition Pauni Family. (CC)	Extreme Makeover: Home Edition Kibe Family. (CC)				
DIS	Bunk'd (CC)	Bunk'd (CC)	Jessie (CC)	Jessie (CC)	Jessie (CC)	Jessie (CC)	Bunk'd (CC)	Bunk'd (CC)
DSC	Crikey! It's the Irwins New Start. (CC)	Crikey! It's the Irwins (9:01) Robert Trains a Dragon.	Crikey! It's the Irwins (10:02) (CC)	Crikey! It's the Irwins (11:02) (CC)				
DSC/INV	On the Case With Paula Zahn River of Sorrow.	Evil Lives Here He Still Haunts Me. An interview with Gwen Bailey. (N) (CC)	Signs of a Psychopath	In Pursuit With John Walsh The Criminal Caregiver.				
E!	Just Go	"Just Go With It" (2011) ** Adam Sandler. (CC)	Temptation Island					
ESPN	NBA Basketball Brooklyn Nets at Los Angeles Clippers. (N) (L)	World of X Games (N)	SportsCenter With Scott Van Pelt (10:35)	2021 Australian Open Tennis Men's Final.				
ESPN-2	College Football	College Football						
EWTN	Sun. Mass Catholics	Life (N)	Holy Rosary	Dogmatic Theology	Catholic	The Catholic		
FNC	Life, Liberty & Levin (N)	The Next Revolution (N)	The Greg Gutfeld Show	Life, Liberty & Levin (CC)				
FOOD	Guy's Grocery Games	Worst Cooks (N)	Beat Bobby	Beat Bobby	Beat Bobby	Beat Bobby		
FREE FRM	"The Incredibles" (6:10) (2004) *** (CC)	"Incredibles 2" (8:50) (2018) *** Voices of Craig T. Nelson, Holly Hunter, Sarah Vowell. (CC)	"Emperor's Grv"					
FS1	College Basketball	Big East	Women's Soccer: SheBelieves Cup	NASCAR				
FX	"Captain America: The Winter Soldier" (7) (2014) *** Chris Evans, Scarlett Johansson. (CC)	"Captain America: The Winter Soldier" (2014) *** Chris Evans, Scarlett Johansson. (CC)						
FX	Family Guy	Family Guy	The Simpsons Luca\$.	The Simpsons (CC)	Bob's Burgers	Bob's Burgers	Bob's Burgers	Bob's Burgers
GOLF	PGA Tour Golf (7:30) The Genesis Invitational, Final Round. (CC)							
GSN	Family Feud	Family Feud	Family Feud	Family Feud	Family Feud	Family Feud	Family Feud	Family Feud
HALL	"Mediterranean"	When Calls the Heart (N)	Golden Girls	Golden Girls	Golden Girls	Golden Girls		
HGTV	Home Town (N)	Home Town (N)	Home Town (CC)	Home Town (CC)				
HIST	The Food That Built America The Chocolate Rush.	The Food That Built America (N) (CC)	Modern Marvels (10:03) (Season Premiere) (N)	Modern Marvels (11:05) Food: Cookies. (CC)				
IFC	"Caddyshack" (7:15) (1980) ** Chevy Chase, Rodney Dangerfield. (CC)	"Crocodile Dundee II" (1988) ** Paul Hogan, Charles Dutton. Outback he-man and girlfriend face Colombian drug dealers. (CC)						
LIFE	Rizzoli & Isles Maura becomes a murder suspect.	Rizzoli & Isles Maura gains insight into her father.	rizzoli & Isles (10:03) But I Am a Good Girl. (CC)	Rizzoli & Isles (11:03) Somebody's Watching Me.				
MSNBC	Week-Joshua Johnson (N)	Week-Joshua Johnson (N)	On Assignment-Engel (N)	Week-Joshua Johnson				
MTV	Ridiculous. Ridiculous.	Ridiculous. Ridiculous.	Ridiculous. Ridiculous.	Ridiculous. Ridiculous.				
NBCS	NHL Hockey: Devils at Capitals	NHL Overtime (9:45) (N)	Sailing The PRADA Cup Challenger Selec					
NGEO	Wicked Tuna (N) (CC)	Wicked Tuna (Season Premiere) (N)	Wicked Tuna (10:42) (CC)					
NICK	Are You Afraid of the Dark?: Curse	Are You Afraid of the Dark?: Curse	Friends (Part 2 of 2) (CC)	Friends (CC)	Friends (CC)	Friends (CC)		
OWN	20/20 on OWN Diamonds Aren't Forever.	20/20 on OWN An armored truck driver commits heists.	20/20 on OWN Can Words Kill? (CC)	20/20 on OWN A teen romance ends in murder.				
OXYGEN	Exhuned (7) (N) (CC)	Snapped Lynn Boyd. (CC)	Killer Motive (CC)	One Deadly Mistake (CC)				
PARMT	"Raiders of the Lost Ark" (7:55) (1981) **** Harrison Ford.	"Indiana Jones & the Temple"						
PCNC	Race to PCNC	PCNC 9PM	PCNC	NightTalk	Paid Prog.	PCNC 11		
SC	Mysteries of the Abandoned (CC)	Ancient Unexplained Files: Egypt (N) (CC)	Secrets of the Viking Stone (N) (CC)	Mysteries of the Abandoned (CC)				
SYFY	"Hancock" (7) (2008) ** Will Smith. (CC)	"Enemy of the State" (1998) *** Will Smith, Gene Hackman, Jon Voight. Rogue agents hunt a lawyer who has an incriminating tape. (CC)						
TBS	The Big Bang Theory	The Big Bang Theory	The Big Bang Theory	The Big Bang Theory	"Back to the Future" (1985) *** Michael J. Fox, Christopher Lloyd, Crispin Glover. (CC)			
TCM	"Bombshell" (1933) *** Jean Harlow, Lee Tracy, Franchot Tone. (CC)	"Design for Living" (1933) ** Fredric March. Two men love the woman they must live with platonically.						
TLC	90 Day Fiancé Julia thinks she's pregnant. (N)	Sister Wives (10:02) (N)	90 Day Fiancé (11:02) (N)					
TNT	"Black Panther" (7:30) (2018) *** Chadwick Boseman. Black Panther springs into action when an old enemy returns. (CC)	"ATL" (2006) ** Tip Harris. Four Atlanta teens face challenges. (CC)						
TOON	Burgers	Amer. Dad	Amer. Dad	Amer. Dad	Family Guy	Family Guy	Rick, Morty	
TRAV	Mountain Monsters The Cherokee Death Cat. (N) (CC)	Survivorman: Bigfoot Tracking in California's forests. (N)						
TRUTV	Imp. Jokers	Imp. Jokers	Imp. Jokers	Imp. Jokers	Imp. Jokers	Fast Foodies	Fast Foodies	
TVL	Two Men	Two and a Half Men (8:45)	Two Men	Two Men	Two Men	Two Men	Two Men	
USA	Law & Order: Special Victims Unit Maternal Instincts.	Law & Order: Special Victims Unit Guardian.	Law & Order: Special Victims Unit Marna.	Law & Order: Special Victims Unit (10:59) Class.				
VH1	"Dope" (7:30) (2015) *** Shameik Moore.	Wild 'n Out	Wild 'n Out	Wild 'n Out	Wild 'n Out	Wild 'n Out	Wild 'n Out	
WE	Law & Order (CC)	Law & Order (CC)	Law & Order America, Inc.	Law & Order (CC)				
WGN-A	NewsNation (N) (CC)	NewsNation (N) (CC)	NewsNation (N) (CC)	NewsNation (CC)				



The old barn sits on 5.2 rustic acres in Sewickley Heights.



The lower level of the dairy barn still has stalls and a feeding trough.

Rustic LUXURY

Who wouldn't want to live in this \$1.3 million barn?

By Patricia Sheridan
Pittsburgh Post-Gazette

Elizabeth and Jeremiah Garvey's blended family got a lot smaller when the older children flew the coop—or in this case the barn.

"It is a historic dairy farm's barn," said Elizabeth Garvey.

The barn at 928 Blackburn Road in Sewickley Heights was transformed into a home in 1997 and updated by the Garveys, who have lived there for 3½ years.

Buying here

"It was once a huge dairy farm, and the basement still has the stalls and feeding trough," she said. "It is really cool."

It could be used for horses or other animals, and maybe it will be again. The four-bedroom, 3½-bath house and its 5.2 acres are priced at \$1.295 million (MLS No.

SEE **BARN**, PAGE E-5



Photos courtesy of Roseanne Martin/Pennsylvania Real Estate Photography

Above: Double barn doors lead into the study lined with bookshelves.

Top left: The two-story living room has a stone fireplace and lots of windows.

River Vue apartment views start at \$1,330

By Linda Wilson Fuoco
Pittsburgh Post-Gazette

Many people entered and exited the 16-story State Office Building in Downtown Pittsburgh after it opened in 1957. You may have stood in line there to renew your driver's license. But no one lived there, until it opened as River Vue apartments in 2012.

Millcraft Industries paid \$4.6 million for the 16-story building at 300 Liberty Ave. in 2009 and converted it to 218 luxury apartments — studios, one- and two-bedroom units and six two-story town homes. Rents range from \$1,135 to \$3,450 per month.

Windows provide panoramic views of the city, including the Point, where the Allegheny and Monongahela rivers meet to form the Ohio River. All tenants have access to an outdoor terrace deck, an optimal observation point for



Kara Sambrick/Millcraft

The dining and living room areas of an all-inclusive apartment at River Vue in Downtown, a favorite of professional athletes and corporate executives new to Pittsburgh.

Living here

fireworks and parades.

Since the high-rise is pet friendly, workers in nearby offices frequently get to see and greet leash-walked dogs on Downtown streets. For dogs and their walkers, their "backyard" is nearby Point State Park.

About 40 tenants have pets, said Justin Horvat, director of residential property management for Millcraft. Each apartment is allowed up to two pets — dogs or cats. There is a one-time pet fee of \$200 plus \$35

additional per month.

River Vue has become home for professional athletes who live there during the season and for newly transplanted corporate executives who are getting to know the city. They often choose one of three one-bedroom apartments that are available for less than a year for \$3,800 a month. That includes parking and all furnishings right down to linens and towels, Horvat said.

So which Steelers, Penguins and Pirates have lived at River Vue?

SEE **VIEWS**, PAGE E-6

Creating a welcoming habitat for pollinators and wildlife

By Dianne Machesney



Allegheny County

Fads in gardening come and go, but one trend that has become central for many gardeners is creating a haven for wildlife, especially pollinators.

Entomologist Douglas Tallamy's 2009 book, "Bringing Nature Home," was a tipping point in inspiring gardeners to put the well-being of the planet front and

center in their landscapes. He and his wife spent 14 years coaxing back to life 10 acres of what

SEE **HABITAT**, PAGE E-5



Doug Tallamy

White-eyed vireo feeding young in nest.



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Who wouldn't want to live in this \$1.3 million barn?

BARN, FROM E-4

1467453) with Robyn Jones of Piatt Sothebys International Realty (412-973-7277 or www.piattsothebysrealty.com).

"It was a hard decision to make to sell, but it makes sense for us right now," she said.

The Garveys fell in love with the property the first time they saw it. "We even got married there."

The property is close to the Village of Sewickley but far enough away to feel the privacy of country living.

"The property behind the house is a land trust, so it is open and beautiful and will stay that way," Garvey noted.

There is plenty of room for exploration and hikes.

"The house is just the right amount of different," she said.

The interior is white and airy, with large windows that allow lots of natural light into the two-story main room.

The house's focal point is the distinctive, decorated metal beams, the structural backbone of the barn. The beams are painted to blend into the walls of the house.

"The beams are beautiful and add that rustic, modern barn look," she said.

Wide-plank wood floors and a stone fireplace com-

plement the updated kitchen with dual farm sinks. The study's built-in shelving is accessed through double barn doors, another nod to the home's past.

The spacious master bedroom has high ceilings and a bathroom with a copper soaking tub and marble floors.

"We redid the master bathroom, which is beautiful," said Garvey.

The entire second floor has been freshly painted as well.

"The sunrise from the master bedroom is something I will miss. It is amazing."

Above the second-floor bedrooms is a loft — just like in a barn. "It is really cool, and that is where my kids played," recalled Garvey.

A three-bedroom guest cottage on the property can be used for visitors.

"We had my mother-in-law staying there a couple of times, and my husband was working out of there. I use it to home-school," she said. "Having another house on the property during the pandemic has been a godsend for the family — everyone has space."

Equestrians will appreciate the property's proximity to Blackburn Farms.

"I ride there and have enjoyed that because it is right across the street," said Garvey. "It's a little slice of



Roseanne Martin/Pennsylvania Real Estate Photography

In 1997, a barn in Sewickley Heights was converted into a four-bedroom, 3½-bath home on 5.2 acres.

heaven in Sewickley."

The property's Allegheny County assessment is \$848,800. Over the past four

years, three houses have sold in the 900 block of Blackburn Road for prices ranging from \$510,000 in No-

vember 2018 to \$975,000 for this house in November 2017 (www2.allegheny-county.us/RealEstate/

[GeneralInfo.aspx?">GeneralInfo.aspx?](#)).

Patricia Sheridan: psheridan@post-gazette.com.



Roseanne Martin/Pennsylvania Real Estate Photography

A guesthouse offers extra space for visitors.



Roseanne Martin/Pennsylvania Real Estate Photography

The kitchen has dual farm sinks and hardwood floors.

How to create a green habitat for pollinators, wildlife

HABITAT, FROM E-4

had been farmland for nearly four centuries, achieving diversity by adding layers to its monocultural botanical architecture. Tallamy's latest book, "Nature's Best Hope: A New Approach to Conservation That Starts in Your Yard" (Timber Press, \$14.99), provides a rubric to achieve

biodiversity in a garden of any size, from a small city plot to a typical suburban yard or many acres of land. Here are some of his tips:

- Shrink the lawn. Lawns are a great American tradition. An expanse of shorn turf is perfect for an active family and can set off a border beautifully. But, if your goal is to bring wildlife to your garden, a lawn is not

the most hospitable choice. For more biodiversity, reduce your grassy footprint and add groundcovers or mixed plantings of native shrubs, grasses and perennials. Also allow some flowering "weeds" to grow in your lawn to reduce the use of chemicals.

- Emphasize native plants. Tallamy provides data showing that native

plants sustain insects while introduced plants do not. All of the estimated 164,000 insect species in the United States depend on plants for food and reproduction. Caterpillars are especially nutritious and sustain the breeding bird population. Hungry baby birds rely on caterpillars to feed them to maturity. A dearth of insects impacts birds' ability to mature and survive.

Native oak (*Quercus*), cherry (*Prunus*) and willow (*Salix*) trees are havens for caterpillars. Oaks are particularly important. According to Tallamy, 557 caterpillar species are supported by oak trees. Their acorns also support mammals such as squirrel, bear and deer. Properties that include these trees greatly support the food web, including birds and bats. A gardener who plants these species is making a major contribution to wildlife.

- Remove invasive species. Don't purchase widely sold invasive plants such as Callery or 'Bradford' pear, privet, burning bush, barberry and Norway maple. If you have inherited a property with these species, eliminate them. Other pervasive invasive species include bush honeysuckle and Oriental bittersweet.

- Plant for pollinators. Some of the best plants for native bees are native perennial species of sunflower (*Helianthus*), goldenrod (*Solidago*), aster (*Symphyotrichum*) and milkweed (*Asclepias*). Start with one or two of these plants. If they do well in your garden, plant more next year. Large groupings are more beneficial than one or two isolated plants. Blueberries (*Vaccinium*) are good woody plants to encourage native bees in the garden. While they are

self-fertile, be sure to select two different varieties for better fruit production.

- Use integrated pest management. Reduce the use of pesticides that kill insects indiscriminately. IPM is a strategy for managing pests that takes into account pests' natural behaviors and biology, considering prevention, avoidance, monitoring and suppression with the least use of toxic chemicals. Native plants typically require less fertilizer than introduced species. Tallamy recommends compost instead.

- Provide water for wildlife. Depending on the size of your garden, a pond or rain garden is appreciated by birds and butterflies. If space is a concern, a bird bath or puddling station will do. Conserve water by using drip irrigation.

- Spread the word: A

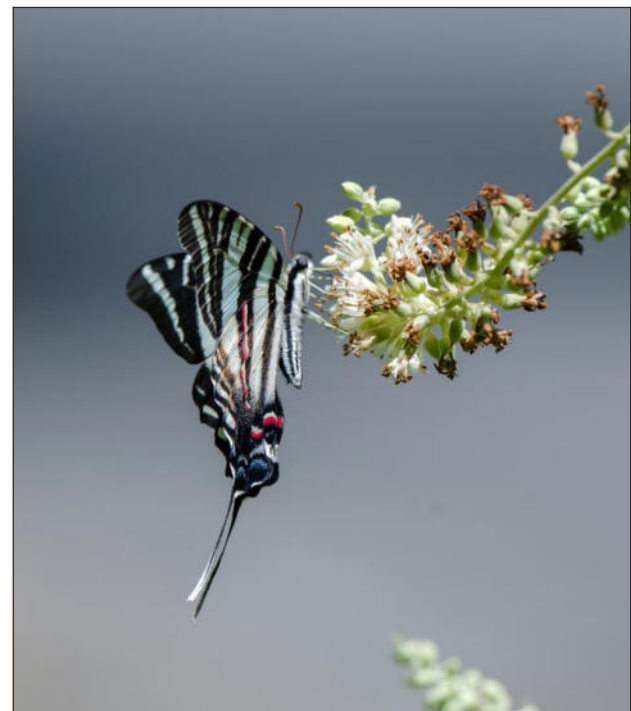
small private garden planted in this manner supports wildlife and may inspire your neighbors. Tallamy encourages conservation corridors where these principles are repeated, creating large swaths of biodiversity. It falls to gardeners to create landscapes that inspire, and to educate communities on the importance of our native insects and birds.

Dianne Machesney is a Penn State Master Gardener. This volunteer program supports the outreach mission of Penn State Extension. Have a gardening question? Email it, along with photos, to the Garden Hotline, staffed by the Penn State Extension Master Gardeners of Allegheny County at allegheny@psu.edu. They are answering emails from home.



Doug Tallamy photos

A junco brings caterpillars to its babies.



Zebra swallowtail sipping nectar from clethra.

At River Vue, Downtown, Point views start at \$1,330

VIEWS, FROM E-4

Horvat won't say. But he did say that all three of those apartments are now available.

They were very much in demand in 2019, he said. "That dried up with COVID."

This year is looking much better than 2020 for all apartments, Horvat said. Eight apartments were leased on Feb. 1.

"The is the busiest February we have had in years," he said.

Here's what else is available now at River Vue:



Rooftop deck at River Vue offers views of Downtown and the Point, where the three rivers meet.

- Three studios with 588 square feet of living space for rents of \$1,330-\$1,520.

- Thirty-four one-bedroom apartments with 894 square feet for \$1,135-\$1,925.

- Eight two-bedroom, two

- bath units with 1,145 square feet for \$1,875-\$3,450 per month.

Parking is not included in the rent. That costs an extra \$210 per month, with 24/7 valet service.

For more information: go to riverviewepgh.com or zillow.com.

Linda Wilson Fuoco:
lfuoco@post-gazette.com or 412-263-1953.

Horoscope: Madalyn Aslan, Feb. 21, 2021

The following astrological forecasts should be read for entertainment value only. These predictions have no reliable basis in scientific fact.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY: Emotionally deep, complex and honest, you have an intimate relationship with the world. Following an extremely difficult childhood, you forged a successful path, and this year, you triumph even more. Reaching out to others helps. If single, you really need to get out more, which is impossible due to COVID-19. You don't commit this year. If attached, you're on a perpetual high in your romance. Virgo is devoted to you.

ARIES (March 21-April 19): It's very important to return all phone calls and emails promptly. Take today to catch up with this and with neighborhood friends and siblings. Let yourself meet — properly socially distanced — a new person who may become a good friend. Tonight: Neighborhood celebration.

TAURUS (April 20-May

20): Today gives you added energy to direct into financial matters. Your enthusiasm and effort bring you profits. A long lost friend contacts you out of the blue. This is the time when almost anything can happen. Tonight: Get ready for a whirlwind of a week.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Your warmth and confidence lead to a new opportunity coming up. Push yourself forward; believe in yourself. Future travel, a career offer, a new love, a new interest and heightened awareness are all highly likely. Tonight: Much depends on you.

CANCER (June 21-July 22): You will enjoy peace and privacy. Discretion comes, and you will not reveal secret information to prying eyes. You will feel concern for those who have had a difficult time and can get involved in charity work. Tonight: Deep satisfaction in making the world a better place.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): You have new insights into friendships and see how the people you're attached to are growing and changing. You get in touch with personal goals and wishes, deciding on which priorities are really

important. Tonight: A great feeling of relief.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Accept constructive criticism gracefully today. You can turn a tense situation into a chance to shine and strengthen your position if you study it carefully. Everyone notices you. A time for tremendous growth and promise commences. Tonight: Celebrate in gratitude.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Today you will be exposed to those who have a different philosophy of life. An open mind and tolerant attitude carry you a long way. A gathering is a time to listen carefully when in conversation with loved ones. Tonight: Escaping it all.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): If there are addictive tendencies, keep them under control. Sweet, rich deserts and other extravagances beckon. Analyze drives, appetites and desires. Understand the moods and feelings of others as you could be a bit intense just now. Tonight: Healing salt bath.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): You have to choose between friends. A compromise is possible. Others are very responsive

to any love and kindness you show. Be liberal with everyone. Let them be themselves, and they will support you. Tonight: Date night where you can forget the day.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): A co-worker is suddenly a better friend — a friend you would see on the weekend. You putz around clearing out clutter and getting rid of debris. Your health improves because the daily environment becomes more nurturing. Tonight: Your partner really appreciates you.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): You have a change of heart about old interests and attachments. Dreams and intuition provide insights to help you make choices. Your vivid imagination is an asset if you direct creativity constructively. Tonight: You catch up with a child in a serious, charming talk.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): You want to break from routine patterns at home and also have a more modern residence. There may be new family or extended family members coming in, and others voice the need to move on and live their own lives. Tonight: A household dinner.

Food-snatching incident leaves bad aftertaste

Ask Amy

By Amy Dickinson
Tribune Content Agency

Dear Amy: Several years ago, my husband and I visited his brother and wife for a vacation. We stayed with them and relied on them for transportation.

One night, we went out to dinner. His brother ordered some fried pickles as an appetizer. My husband told him he had never had one before and reached over to take one.

His brother slapped his hand hard and told him he would order him his own. My husband and his brother's wife and I were in shock. Because we were staying with them and at their mercy, we didn't say anything. I tried to pay for our dinner after that, but his brother refused to let us. Nothing more was said.

Since then, my husband and I agreed if we ever did visit again, we would never stay with them. The problem is we can't seem to get closure on this. His brother never apologized, nor has it ever been brought up again between the two brothers, even though they have stayed in touch.

Should we ask for an apology? Should we let him know how much we were hurt by his actions? We are not sure how to get over this experience. — Disappointed Sister-in-Law

Dear Disappointed: Many people treat their dinners like a freewheeling buffet — what's mine is yours — but there are

some people (and I am one of them) who are triggered by others taking food from them, without being invited or asking permission.

What your husband did ("Hmmm, I've never had that before; I'll just help myself") was also a very sibling-like thing to do, revealing behavior between the two brothers that probably goes back to childhood.

What your brother-in-law did in response was inexcusable. Your husband and his brother have maintained a speaking relationship. He is waiting for an apology that will never come.

Unfortunately, bro-code often suggests that the aggrieved party should just "get over it," without an apology from the aggressor. It's possible that this twisted ethic contributed to the slapping, because when people don't use their words (your husband didn't ask, his brother didn't apologize), they tend to lash out.

If your husband wants to get over this, he will have to be brave enough to bring it up: "Look, this may seem like ancient history to you, but it has been weighing on my mind. That time you slapped me at the restaurant during our visit really shocked me. It still bothers me."

His brother might say he doesn't remember it or deny outright that it ever happened. Be prepared.

Email Amy Dickinson at askamy@amydickinson.com or send a letter to Ask Amy, P.O. Box 194, Freeville, NY 13068.

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Allegheny County

PITTSBURGH

1st Ward

Andrew Glasgow to KJRS Properties LLC, commercial property, 111 Smithfield St., \$600,000.

2nd Ward

Albert Vivadio II to Eric and Julie Hoffman, 11 Fifth Ave. Unit 802, \$400,000. Smithfield Oliver Phase 2 Partners L.P. to Lalithya Reddy, 350 Olive Ave. APT 1607, \$407,373. Daniel Reese to Thomas and Rayanne Maciarelo, 941 Penn Ave. Unit 202, \$325,000.

4th Ward

Raymond Wiener to University Of Pittsburgh, commercial property, 229 Atwood St., \$2,100,000. Qi Laing Chen to CityLife East LLC, 3326 Hardie Way, \$160,000.

5th Ward

Joseph Michael Harverson to David Nugent and Rebecca Garlena, 4357 Dakota St., \$325,000.

6th Ward

James Damian Founds to Brian Zuckerman and Shannon Conte, 335 37th St., \$799,900. Robin Berman to Cody Steitle, 265 Ater Way, \$131,679. Adam Miyak to Greenslope Capital LLC, 938 Herron Ave., \$50,000.

7th Ward

David Gesue to Adam Haines, 2601 Burnham St., \$275,000. Charles Alker Jr. to Thomas Weidenhof, 215 Dengler St., \$35,000. Saddle Light Capital LLC to Daniel Davis, 3221 Mary St., \$155,000. Kaleb Snyder to Adarsh Babu, 110 S 23rd St., \$284,500. Veterans Administration to SMV Homes LLC, 2511 Sarah St., \$148,500. Lee Grice to Devon Cook and Paul Demaco, 2948 Spring St., \$60,000.

8th Ward

Michael Herron to Lin Yuan Sophia Wang, 340 Roup Ave., \$400,000. Show SUNG to Costello Properties LLC, 300 S Fairmount St., \$390,000. Gail Ransom to Ted Cmarada, 228 S Mathilda St., \$321,750. Michael Terrigno to Alejandro Diaz and Maria Grywalski, 350 W Penn Pl. \$309,000.

9th Ward

James Taylor to Daniel and Denise Hughes, 145 42nd St., \$289,000. Casey Taylor Pentrack to Mark and Matthew Schuman, 260 42nd St. UNIT 6, \$217,000. 46th Street Trust to Jacob Lee Artuso, 260 46th St., \$635,000. Estate of Ronald Nugent to Easy Rentals LLC, 4211 Dunkeld Way, \$45,000. George Richard Evans to Tucker Marder and Isla T Hansen, 4800 Harrison St., \$826,000.

10th Ward

Jessica Margolis to Courtenay Sashin, property, 525 56th St., \$162,000. Dinah Adjaye to Jason and Tara Geyer, 1140 Brintell St., \$236,500. Ruth Volk to Carroll LLC, 1136 Fairfield St., \$130,000. IDG Improvements LLC to Darren Gruetz, 5325 McCandless Ave., \$135,000. Yoland Collin to Chance Rocco, 1624 Morningside Ave., \$245,500. Robert Alexander to Ernest Agusti Clement and Atzari Corominas, 1813 Morningside Ave., \$270,000.

11th Ward

Estate of Peter Oresick to Ryan and Lauren Sims, 6342 Jackson St., \$517,500.

701 N Negley LLC to Joseph Friendman and Alexandra Wolianin, 703 N Negley Ave., \$529,000.

12th Ward

Sean Ellis to Jascar Enterprises LLC, 633 Lincoln Ave., \$5,000.

13th Ward

Yvonne Grant to Thomas and Ashanti Jones, 1095 Blackadore Ave., \$36,500. Boris Tafkov to David Per and Amy Ferraro, 2011 Robinson Blvd., \$105,000.

14th Ward

Aldo Deciantis to Na Li and Xin Hai Yu, 6528 Darlington Road, \$405,000. Daniel Berkowitz to Richard Brown and Sara Rothstein, 5873 Douglas St., \$495,000. Richard Fiorentino to Jonathan Larkin, 429 Hastings St., \$121,980. Karen Fredette to Benjamin Miller and Sara Morrison, 601 Hastings St., \$525,000. John Keeler to Frank and Colleen Csech, 1429 Inverness Ave., \$925,000. Timothy Finerty to Ximei Peng, 207 S Braddock Ave., \$285,000. Stephen Mendelson to David Hillman, 95 Woodland Road, \$1,850,000.

15th Ward

Eloisa Freiria to Blue Bull LLC, 4828 Giddings St., \$17,500. Carola Neumann to Common Ground Investments LLC, 162 Marsden St., \$5,000. Demetrios Karatassos to JJ Modeling Inc., 611 Montclair St., \$123,000. K. Alan Syer to Jonathan Kowalski, 713 Montclair St., \$222,500. Patricia Stefan to Lual Love Sr, 231 Renova St., \$15,000. James Ohanlon to RTH Investment LLC, 5127 Roma Way, \$51,300. Christopher Gannett to Christopher Gannett and Matthew Lebo, 390 Susanna Ct, \$59,500. LSG 57 LLC to Joshua Suskin, 3814 Winterburn Ave., \$515,000.

16th Ward

David Gesue to Adam Haines, 2601 Burnham St., \$275,000. Charles Alker Jr. to Thomas Weidenhof, 215 Dengler St., \$35,000. Saddle Light Capital LLC to Daniel Davis, 3221 Mary St., \$155,000. Kaleb Snyder to Adarsh Babu, 110 S 23rd St., \$284,500. Veterans Administration to SMV Homes LLC, 2511 Sarah St., \$148,500. Lee Grice to Devon Cook and Paul Demaco, 2948 Spring St., \$60,000.

17th Ward

Mary Nigrelli LLC to Iroquois Realty LLC, property, 100 Brosville St., \$24,000. Domenic Gorga Jr. to KB Capital Group LLC, 15 Eron Way, \$130,000. Kevin Dennis Mulroy to Emma Cline, 1817 Harcum Way, \$248,500. Karen Perry to Brett and Nikki Carr, 182 S 16th St., \$283,000. Richard Hawkins to William Mann and Cristina Saavedra, 17 S 18th St., \$639,000. Saddle Light PA Ventures LLC to Jeremy Sopko, 125 S 20th St., \$264,000. K4K LLC to Kajon Materials Inc., 183 S. 16th St., \$50,000. Andrew John Ritchey to Joseph and Mary Sirianni, 1906 Wharton St., \$285,000.

18th Ward

Estate of Richard Bright to Samule Lee Wright Sr, 826 Lillian St., \$10,000. Ronald Poole to Benjamin Bailey et al. and Graham Bailey, 439 Ruxton St., \$155,000. Richard Snipe Jr. to Robin Devaughn, 908 Taft Ave., \$42,000.

19th Ward

Cynthia Konieczny to Luke Edward and Emily Jean Damico, 2855 Ardsley St., \$163,000. American International Relocation Soluti to Christopher and Karen Hughes, 482 Bradley St., \$622,500. Lisa Karaker to Anthony Bucci, 1840 Fallowfield Ave., \$80,000. Brookline

Place Inc. to Gerald and Patricia Donohoe, 219 Grandview Ave. C, \$625,000. June Green to Richard Martin, 1000 Grandview Ave. Unit 205, \$360,000. Estate of Ronald Rump to John and Rachel Schwartzmiller, 2205 Los Angeles Ave., \$123,455. John Salzman to Alexis Rae Nugent, 647 Pernlyn St., \$165,000. Brian Rodgers to Nikol Davitian, 1706 Pioneer Ave., \$190,000. Jonathan Neipert to Segavepo LLC, 2015 Plainview Ave., \$147,500. James Krentz to Abby Calabrese, 238 Prospect St., \$475,000. Christopher Niemann II to Scott Duda, 830 Shadycrest Road, \$240,500. Acnr River Towing INC to Cambell Transportation Co. INC, commercial property, W Carson St., \$250,000. Saddle Light PA Ventures LLC to Old Concord Capital LLC, 740 Willis St., \$177,500. DPMMO LLC to Chad Suvak, 316 Winterhill St., \$115,000. Bonnie Jones to Woodward Ave Holdings LLC, 2041 Woodward Ave., \$75,000.

20th Ward

Randolph Jedrzewski to Pittsburgh Property Mgmt LLC, 1018 Crucible St., \$45,000. Justin Escajeda to Hillsboro Hockey Trust, commercial property, 634 Hillsboro St., \$57,500. Estate of Dennis Gawlak to Shane Torcasi, 1106 Oswin St., \$2,000. Estate of Robert Reinhart to Cassie Home, 1043 Steuben St., \$130,000. Primer America Fund L 1.P. to Blackstart Stability Distressed Debt Fun, 814 Steuben St., \$21,560. Luke Scabillonio to Luke Potenziani, 2731 Strachan Ave., \$155,000. Estate of Richard Bruce to Mackenzie Bruce, 1408 Swantek St., \$132,000.

24th Ward

Nicole Dimond to Stacy Gorny, 1430 Lowrie St., \$150,000. Sirichai Phumirat to Emily Fleeson, 1918 Lowrie St., \$106,000. Richard Krist to Jacob Schnoebelen and Claire Ellingson, 2114 Straubs Lane, \$169,900. Principal Real Estate Investments LLC to Dominic DeLaurenti and Drew Gaworski, 1964 Straubs Ln, \$189,900.

26th Ward

Jerome Jones to Katelyn Richardson, 241 Kennedy Ave., \$3,000. Estate of Joseph Boylan to Justina Caroline, 4021 Portman Ave., \$129,500. Ramon Argandona to Evan Delestienne and Marin Johnson, 3815 Portman St., \$132,500. Heath Shaffer to Trevor Byers and Jeffrey Niederster, 3533 Sirius St., \$130,000.

27th Ward

Sun Hui Vanhom to I Work Solutions LLC, 2610 Bartold St., \$29,000. Patrick Gaertner to Eric Williams, 1430 Eckert St., \$16,500. Robert James Anderson to Matthew and Patricia Antram, 1034 Grand Ave., \$90,000.

28th Ward

Atlas Industries LLC to Chartiers Enterprises Inc., industrial property, Bell St., \$120,456. Donald James Fahmer to Nicholas and Abigail Kelly, 6 Cannon St., \$235,500. Christina Stehr to Robert Mathews III and Renee Mathews, 3475 Clearfield St., \$140,000. John Francis to J's & G's Construction LLC, 1882 Noblestown Road, \$30,000. Estate of James Hart to Zachary Wareham and Lauren Stuparitz, 1455 Rydal St., \$120,100.

29th Ward

Brian James Nolton to SMS City Properties LLC, 304 Birmingham Ave., \$48,000. John Cebula to Justin Vesci, 139 Claus Ave., \$195,000. Zachary

SEE DEEDS, PAGE E-7

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Estate of Peter Oresick to Ryan and Lauren Sims, 6342 Jackson St., \$517,500.

Real estate transfers

DEEDS, FROM PAGE E-6

Newman to Ian McDonald, 133 Duffield St., \$122,000. Micharl Hill to SH Real Investments LLC, 101 E Cheryhill St., \$58,000. Ronald Jardini to Ronald Agor, property, 2512 Edgar St., \$1,500. William Backus to Matthew and Ortrud Torti, 310 Merritt Ave., \$150,000. Eric Karolik to Jennifer Lengyel, 2335 Valera Ave., \$139,000.

30th Ward

Iglesia DeCristo Gracia Misericordia Y P to Top Notch Property Mgmt LLC, 336 Arabella St., \$30,500. Walter Grayson to Emmy-Joy Development LLC, 44 Graper St., \$45,000. Midfirst Bank to Victoria Klimt, 328 Orchard Pl, \$34,000.

31st Ward

Keystone Property Buyers LLC to Marisa Maleike, 4561 Maplelake Drive, \$205,000. Michael Laukaitis to Noah Morse, 4618 Plaport St., \$144,000.

32nd Ward

Natalie Weber to Kaylee Gilchrist, 2338 Parkyn St., \$159,000. Tariq Francis to Amy Geisler, 1731 Seaton St., \$235,000.

Aleppo

Diane Snow to Paul and Hildy Heffernan, 312 Sewickley Ridge Drive, \$563,000. Cordelia Glenn to Michael Hess et al. and David Macmillan, 201 Trailside Drive, \$190,000. Laurie Johns Woelfel to Edward and Melanie Turngren, 145 Veshio Drive, \$409,000.

Aspinwall

Patricia Frain to Peter David Eberle, 404 Lexington Ave. Unit 1, \$134,900.

Avon

Roy Edward Wetzel to Joshua McStay Sr and Juliette Harp, 108 Harrison Ave., \$165,000. ACAS Holdings LLC to Benjamin Simon, 6504 Virginia Ave., \$138,000.

Baldwin Borough

Regis Perich to Daniel Best, 614 Agnew Road, \$82,500. Estate of Aloysius Shore to Kim Stephen Haines Jr., 509 Barbara Drive, \$154,500. Karyl Leonhard to Michael and Tara Leonhardt, 5444 Hacienda Drive, \$180,000. Robert Burns to Natalie Weber, 1774 Malor Drive, \$192,500. Robert Wertz to Edem Setodji, 107 Palace Ct, \$124,000. Marion Shannon to Laura Shehand, 1440 Senior Drive, \$185,000.

Bellevue

Susan Wray to Kenneth Staudt and Caitlin Marie Thieroff Staudt, 200 Irwin Ave., \$170,000. Ralph Montgomery to Jeffrey Allen Hesson, 50 S Balph Ave., \$87,000. Roy Eckert to Matthew Wemer, 259 Woods Ave., \$175,123.

Bethel Park

Keith Capozoli trustee to Redeeming Grace Church of Pittsburgh INC, institutional site, 7189 Baptist Road, \$300,000. Michael Meneo to Sean and McKenna Grove, 5328 Florida Ave., \$180,000. Estate of Kathryn Knowlan to Think Big RE LLC, 5654 Florida Ave., \$100,500. Colin Epley to Vincent Pantuso, 2103 Hillcrest St., \$150,000. Sheldon Hamilton to Jacob Seawy, 5473 Main St., \$190,000. John Kovach to Mary Lou Richter, 401 Maywood Drive, \$155,000. Michael Gillespie Jr. to Segavapo LLC, 2814 Oak St., \$148,000. Michael Thompson to William Kyle and Alicia Nicole Obrien, 2891 Oneill Drive, \$293,000. David Teprag Jr. to Kathryn Ann Schubert Mielnik, 5032 Orchard Ave., \$200,000.

Blawnox

Thomas Michael Lieb to John Miciot and Marie Minahan, 1066 North Ave., \$220,000.

Braddock Hills

Chris O'Shell to Douglas Harsberger and Anne Rummell, 2824 McKelvey Road, \$101,000. Taylee Wilson to Ashlyn Wylie, 37 Roxbury Road, \$212,900.

Bradford Woods

Matthew Hardin trustee to Thor Andres and Lynette Brevik, 453 Bellaire Road, \$90,000.

Brentwood

Frank Williams to Francis and Martha Daniels, 4051 Brownsville Road, \$207,750. Charles Elliot Morinello to Taylor McConnell, 363 Dailey Road, \$105,000. Susan Twiss to David Evan and Caitlin McCullough, 233 E. Willock Road, \$192,000. Mark Vadsiera to Ilya Emelianov, 242 Kaplan Ave., \$154,000. James Kleckner to Luke James Mirones, 3005 Laola Ave., \$130,000. Mae Fannie to Emerson Lopez, 4052 Meadowbrook Blvd., \$43,000. Janet Ruppert to Janna Huswit, 2722 Pyramid Ave., \$119,900. Joshua Weaver to Syyreeta Grace, 2813 Pyramid Ave., \$169,900. Dale Deninno trustee to John Aasen and Catherine Regina Jeremko, 4155 Rockwood Drive, \$215,000. Bradley Morris to Jason Barron, Unknown Address, \$218,000.

Carnegie

Randolph Jedrzejewski to Pittsburgh Property Mgmt LLC, 118 Fifth Ave., \$130,000. James Court to Jessica Francis, 123 Cathedral Ct, \$207,000. Eric Ogden to Sean Orsini, 319 Thomas St., \$192,000. Ryan Gregg to Kenton and Patricia Derikot, 113 Wabash Ave., \$255,000. Brandon Hess to Brandi Comport, 20 Watson St., \$160,000.

Castle Shannon

William Maher to John and Katherine Tejano Rhoads, 3180 McRoberts Road, \$139,400. Joseph Swank to National Residential Nominee Services Inc, 3725 Middleboro Road, \$145,500. National Residential Nominee Services Inc to Danielle Cain, 3725 Middleboro Road, \$145,500. Handee Marts Inc. to Miramar Brands PA Holdings LLC, service station or oil storage site, 285 Mt. Lebanon Blvd., \$970,000. Hubert Joe Kreutzer to Blake Lake Rentals LLC, 1426 Trance Drive, \$100,000.

Chalfant

Excaltiber REP 01 L.P. to Pittsburgh Real Estate Invest Group LLC, 765 Greensburg Pike, \$30,000.

Cheswick

Capital Land Holdings LLC to Ronald and Alysha Slaughter, 400 N Highland Ave., \$249,900. Richard Santimauro to Ellie Heinrich, 1512 Sherman St., \$156,000.

Churchill

Estate of Joseph Malone to Robert and Judith Yulfo, 828 Beulah Road, \$124,900. Sonja Austin to Thomas and Diane Santucci, 47 Holland Road, \$290,000. Mary Callender to Evan Luis Adams, 142 Kingsdale Road, \$214,500.

Clairemont

Straub Property Management LLC to Project One Pittsburgh LLC, 637 Sixth St., \$28,000. BAK Enterprises LLC to Project One Pittsburgh LLC, 624 Constitution Circle, \$37,000. Robert Charles Nebel Jr. to Project One Pittsburgh LLC, 436 Farnsworth Ave., \$440,000. Randy Gombos to Project One Pittsburgh LLC, 608 Farnsworth Ave., \$25,000. Evergreen Property Invest LLC to Project One Pittsburgh LLC, 613 N. Sixth St., \$60,000. Michael Yeager to Alison and Madeline Bodenhemier, 319 Pennsylvania Ave., \$39,500. Jesse Johnson to Project One Pittsburgh LLC, 350 Wylie Ave., \$47,000.

Collier

Stambrosky Homes Inc. to Mark Santo and Valerie Visconti, 1010 Colony Drive, \$587,500. John Kelly to Eugene Bonaroti, 241 Glen Abbey Ct, \$547,500. Maronda Homes Inc. to Daniel and Sarah Braun, property, 1001 Livorno Drive, \$407,804. Maronda Homes Inc. to Patrick Jordan Donaldson and Sarah Elizabeth Walters-Slezak, 1054 Livorno Drive, \$415,313. Miranda Homes LLC to Christopher Mark and Brenda Shawn Naim, property, 1072 Livorno Drive, \$382,448. James Komosinski to Geoffrey Shorts, 40 McMichael Road, \$167,000. Joseph Housley to Kevin Hanshaw, 64 Price Road, \$145,400.

Coraopolis

St. Pauls African M E Zion Church of Cora to Lost&Found Christian Fellowship West Hill, institutional site, 601 Fifth Ave., \$100,000.

Crafton

William Moore to Robert Womackso, 130 E Crafton Ave., \$120,000.

Crescent

Adam Miller to Kevin Horey, 407 Valley View Drive, \$193,000.

Dormont

Estate of Stephen Morovich Jr. to Joshua Earl Roric and Emily Anne Boyd, 1527 Hillsdale Ave., \$249,900. Justin Murphy to Lauren Carotta, 1644 Mcfarland Road, \$162,000.

Duquesne

Handee Marts Inc. to Miramar Brands PA Holdings LLC, service station or oil storage site, 818 Duquesne Blvd., \$900,000. Pamela Gracan to Admiral Property Management LLC, 127 Friendship St., \$11,500.

East McKeesport

Edgar Loving to Edgar Ruffolo, 925 Messineo Ave., \$119,000.

East Pittsburgh

Lewis Shaw to Justin Mathis, 506 Center St., \$17,500.

Edgewood

George Gould Jr. to Robert Zacharias, 164 Gordon St., \$160,000.

Edgeworth

Brenda Kopf trustee to Michael and Rochelle Etzi Tee, 735 Chestnut Road, \$407,000. Gary Groom to Demetrios and Karen Pappan, 510 Maple Lane, \$655,000. Ian Miller to Keith Allen Sacchini and Patricia Ann Wolf, 408 Maple Ln, \$760,000.

Elizabeth Township

Carol Salmon to Darren Pope, 2970 Buena Vista Road, \$127,000. Estate of Jacob Fleming to Kelsey Meyers, 407 Jeffrey Drive, \$125,000.

Etna

Estate of Kenneth Wayne Moots to Richard Begenwald Jr. and Brittany Begenwald, 143 Sherman Ave., \$110,000. Brian Berkeiser to Rodney and Ron Walsh, 54 Sycamore St., \$100,000. Kevin Cody to Garrett Burke Vrbancic and Alexandra Jean Porter, 129 Vista St., \$185,900.

Fawn

Estate of William Linden to Corey and Chelsea King, 2964 Bull Creek Road, \$100,000. David Fine to Huntington Nation Bank Trust, 5535 Bull Creek Road, \$139,000. Nicole Murdock Johnston to Jay Moquade and Alaina Guman, property, 3208 Donnellville Road, \$185,000. Shawn Holman to Michael Edwards and Mildred Young, 575 Route 908 Ext., \$95,000.

Findlay

Albert Unit III to Amy Zawacki, property, Anna St., \$15,000. Zachary Meister to Nicholas Kapty, 188 Cranbrook Drive, \$197,000. Sahrista Development Inc. to Bruce and Carol Mandella, 120 Lenox Drive, \$448,491. Kim Vo to David Gottschall and Shirley Cawley, 34 Trotter Lane, \$585,000.

Forest Hills

Wayne Reusch to Blake Joseph and Ashleigh Restelli, 241 Avenue B, \$132,000. Estate of Carl Fuhman to Michael and Nancy Nantz, 431 Edgewood Road, \$173,500.

Forward

MMA Mineral Group LLC to Firefly Maersk Jar Minerals SPV LLC, commercial property, Unknown Address, \$103,638. Nicholas Luptak to Brandon and Crystal Biliec, 3301 Rainbow Run Road, \$69,000.

Fox Chapel

Edward Weldon to Robert Keck and Erin Flannery Franklin, 115 Catalpa Ridge Road, \$1,220,000. Estate of Frances Rice to Deborah Erbstein, 205 Foxhurst Drive, \$295,000. Heather Benjamin to Robert Subasic Jr. and Lynn Subasic, 923 Settlers Ridge Road, \$835,000. Estate of Walter Hiller Jr. to Gregory and Elizabeth Meinart King, property, Willow Farms Ln, \$215,000.

Franklin Park

Kyle Orwig to Craig Morton and Lauren Jones, 2567 Barnwood Drive, \$613,000. Zachary Decarlo to Jesse Robinson and Jessika Coltz, 2464 Brandt School Road, \$325,500. Shilpa Vadiraj Hegde to Shaung Wu and Linnan Zhang, 2001 Connecticut Ln, \$410,000. Stephen Matkovich to Abhishek Gupta and Debleena Dev, 1910 Georgetown Drive, \$297,000. Liping Qi to Lin Bo, 1615 Oakleaf Ln, \$439,000. William Timothy Dizio to Graebel Relocation Services Worldwide In, 1615 Oakleaf Ln, \$439,000. Graebel Relocation Services Worldwide In to Lin Bo, 1615 Oakleaf Ln, \$439,000. Estate of Marlene Frey to Bruce and Alisa Walter, 1511 West View Lane, \$400,000.

Glassport

Brent Jacoby to Grand Old Properties LLC, 613 Indiana Ave., \$31,000. Colechi's Development LLC to Kelcie Zapf, 820 Vermont Ave., \$33,000.

Green Tree

Kathleen Przybyski to Karen McCartney, 124 Banbury Ln, \$330,000. Kristen Simon to Anne Matsacki, 1015 Dale Drive, \$329,000. Michael Sokol to Jeffrey Redenbach, 118 E Manilla Ave., \$210,000. Joanne Bridge to Adam Eric Bush and Briana Unger, 135 Parkedge Road, \$155,000.

Hampton

William Betmet to Matthew Williams, 3299 Antler Drive, \$210,000. Dennis Fischer to Michael Eric and Lindsey Lee Johnson, 5002 Meadow Crest Drive, \$300,500. Hampton Development Co. LLC to Sarah Smolik, condominium property, 4402 20th Meadow Drive, \$85,000. Raymond Betz to Samuel and Tajuana Stephenson, 3121 Tall Oak Drive, \$556,000. Eric Leidwinger to Michael Sharp and Anna Steward, 2897 Tremonte Lane, \$390,000.

Harmar

Harmarville Hotel Assoc. L.P. to Harmarville Retail Associates L.P., commercial property, 2825 Freepport Road, \$273,030. Raymond Bugay to Edward Burchell, 797 Guys Run Road, \$56,000.

Harrison

Randall Artowsky to The George N Beck Jr. Revocable Trust, 368 McWilliams Drive, \$189,900. Robert Beck to Shawn Bargerstock, 1521 Neely St.,

\$107,000. Estate of Joseph Bill Such to Bruce and Mary Kathryn Banning, 1425 Pacific Ave., \$70,000. Erik Pienwsza to Jesse Ian McCullough and Amy Manofsky, 1513 Saxonburg Road, \$165,000.

Homestead

Geraldine Kallay to Four 4 T Home Improvements, 212 E. 16th Ave., \$18,000.

Indiana

Robert Gaus to Brady McCauley and Crista Edwards, 1708 Burchfield Road, \$229,900. Estate of James Frink to Joseph Iannelli III and Melissa Iannelli, 200 N Rose Drive, \$245,000. Richmond Estates L.P. to NVR INC, property, 2004 Olivette Drive, \$89,900.

Jefferson Hills

Maronda Homes Inc. to Adam and Nicole Martik, property, 115 Chesapeake Drive, \$470,843. Laura Lee Crain to Gary and Tina Borneman, 1262 Gill Hall Road, \$150,000. Donald Bernardi Jr. to Tyler Wehrel, 2520 Ridge Road, \$150,000. Gail Smith to Michael Pellegrini, 1001 Riverview Drive, \$125,000. Joseph Spataro to Charles Edward Besong and Kimberly Anne Hennon, 320 Waterman Road, \$160,000.

Kennedy

Cyrus Howells to Nicholas Smithyman, 72 Castleview Drive, \$214,900. Wilmington Trust NA trustee to Shawn Fluellen and Chris Rose, 26 Coraopolis Road, \$50,000. NVR Inc. to Colin and Aaina Ithig, 213 Fostall Cr, \$481,710. Andrew Kachmar III to Daniel Shutika and Kathleen Cercone, 103 Herbst Road, \$120,000. Christopher Hearn to Samuel Bitar and Corey Nolan, 35 Kenwood Drive, \$176,000. Steve Bonislawsky to Steffania Group LLC, 60 Midway Drive, \$140,000. FC Kennedy LLC to NVR Inc., property, 129 Red Pine Drive, \$78,300. Leslie Wiermik to Jason and Lindsay Keller, 21 Roosevelt Drive, \$299,000.

Lincoln

Robert Williams to Alexander Busowski and Krista Meyer, 2151 Lincoln Blvd., \$75,000.

Marshall

Spang Rd Develop LLC to John Butcher and Kevin Walker, property, 3001 Allman Pl, \$949,500. Spang Rd Develop LLC to Jonathan Tanner and Natalie Rose Miller, property, 3003 Allman Pl, \$1,462,681. 410 Fairmont Drive LLC to Edgar Rodriguez, 410 Fairmont Drive, \$310,000. Andrew Niklaus to Kiruthika Alagirsamy and Puri Jeganathan Thengren, 430 Fairmont Drive, \$310,000. Celtic Capital LLC to Christopher Kohl and Alicia Budz, property, 237 Faulk Drive, \$236,585. Heurich Builders Inc. to Omid and Erin Brooke Gohari, 1001 Goldeneye Drive, \$175,000. Christina Scolieri to Xing Gao and Bowen Yi, 239 Venango Trail, \$585,000. Robert Byer to Susan Weston, 223 Venango Tr, \$375,000. Soldi Fossa LLC to Elizabeth Varoli, 1265 Woodland Road, \$600,000.

McCandless

Chris Paylo to Yi Hua and Lu Xiao, 9413 Babcock Blvd., \$426,000. George Zeile to John Heurich Jr. and Maureen Heurich, 9348 Doral Drive, \$300,000. Thomas Stearns to Megan McGrath and Lori Natoli, 511 Jackson St., \$280,000. Gregory Klinefelter to Dennis Cornel and Katyn Andolina, 10099 Old Perry Highway, \$582,000. William Wojnar to James Morrissy IV and Diane Meyer, 9519 Old Perry Highway, \$435,000. Louis Glasso III to Olivia Glasso, 472 Seminole Ave., \$220,000. Handee Marts Inc. to Miramar Brands PA Holdings LLC, service station or oil storage site, 740 W Ingomar Road, \$1,050,000. Kenneth Gagahan to Lee and Michelle McCaffrey, 9401 Woodcrest Road, \$347,000.

McKees Rocks

Karl Bixler to Frances Goshay, 1013 First St., \$120,000. Estate of John Papinchak to DBP Rental Properties LLC, 310 Gardner St., \$6,000. Gregory Janney to Reach Tail LLC, 121 Helen St., \$11,925. Mark Evans to CDL Properties LLC, 406 Shingiss St., \$28,500.

McKeesport

Anna Campana to Christopher Baker and Mia Neri, 415 25th St., \$62,500. Regis Andres to Joseph Estochin and Susan Rozdon, 420 36th St., \$55,000. Maura Dee McCall to James Ellis Clark, 2423 Banker St., \$47,890. Louis Waschowich to Madison Elaine Plant, 2614 Banker St., \$79,900. Robert Burnett to Brian and Tina Watson Stumpf, 800 Dewees St., \$15,000. Gary Musisko to Money Mikes Inc., recreational facility, 2701 Walnut St., \$35,000.

Monroeville

Estate of Edward Culbertson to Colin and Hannah Freyvogel, 427 Colonial Drive, \$170,000. Glenn Rozcek to James Wilton, 156 Edgenuede Drive, \$305,000. Timberdale Capital LLC to Segavapo LLC, 219 Garden City Drive, \$179,500. Lars Gilbertson to Huong Nguyen, 228 Garden City Drive, \$135,000. Estate of Robert Kooser to Segavapo LLC, 304 Garden City Drive, \$137,000. Christie Girouard to Daniel Biondi Jr., 146 Glenwood Drive, \$182,000. Dwight Hackett to Anthony Hampton, 511 Larix Road, \$130,000. Pittsburgh Bathub Refinishing LLC to Wendy Reeves, 200 McMasters Drive, \$218,500. Salvatore Sheffo Jr. to Christopher and Hope Clemens, 223 Noel Drive, \$151,000. Estate of Kenneth Fung to Meerim Moldavieva and Maksat Osmonov, 119 Penn Lear Drive, \$210,000. Estate of Wayne Scholar to Ryan Wayne Stover, 2170 Ramsey Road, \$224,900.

Moore

BGRS LLC to Alok and Swarada Hiremani, 605 Aberdeen Court, \$350,000. Sean McCurdy to Brandon Stringert and Katelyn Mae Adams, 207 Bonnie Brae Drive, \$134,000. Aaron Frick to Alexander Kirsch, 241 Birch Drive, \$189,000. Levi Ott to Silas and Tamara Watkins, 122 Claridge Drive, \$299,995. Brian Mamula to Barry and Lisa Brewer, 900 College Park Drive Unit 7, \$73,000. Brian Anzellotti to Sazzad Uz Jaman and Syerna Afrin, 624 Fieldstone Drive, \$135,000. Housing & Urban Development to Eric Pollino, 301 McCaffery Drive, \$91,876. Suman Laroia to Karen Bryan, 1012 Sanlin Drive, \$70,000. Paul Tutino to David Jenkins Jr. and Leann Jenkins, 428 Scottsdale Drive, \$247,000. Mary Ellen Monger to Lauren Murtha, 304 Serendipity Drive, \$155,000. Cynthia Palamara to Sean and Sarah Kreefer, 281 Shady Glen Drive, \$335,000.

Mt. Lebanon

John Dziedzic Jr. to Tyler Gilbert and Samantha Bickar, 211 Altona Place, \$270,000. Robert Cancilla to Caleb Westlake and Paige Perez, 500 Bower Hill Road, \$210,000. BSS Lebanon LLC to PS Pennsylvania Trust, industrial site, 514,000,000. Kevin Arway to Amanda Benedict, 1038 Firwood Drive, \$205,000. Justin Alexander to Anthony Hassey and Alyssa Dedola, 747 Fruitburst Drive, \$290,000. Mark Stabile to Suzanne Perusic, 243 Inglewood Drive, \$374,900. Sylva Garlit to Angela Pollice, 830 Kingsberry Circle, \$275,000. Samuel Michael Lion to Lauren Sambolt, 979 Lakemort Drive, \$590,000. Patrick Sullivan to Sylvain Goyette, 111 Newburn Drive, \$635,000. Estate of Grace Scanlon to Nicholas and Kelsea Sambrick, 148

Sunridge Drive, \$249,000. Gerald Rutledge to Sajen Maharjan, 189 Sunridge Drive, \$300,000.

Mt. Oliver

Estate of Richard Pietrusza to Arian Johnson and Lisa Pietrusza, 437 Carl St., \$70,000. Blue Line Property Management LLC to Andrews & Andrews Realty LLC, 912 Transverse Ave., \$40,000. Nicolas Romanello to Mt. Properties LLC, 345 Walter Ave., \$40,000.

Munhall

Gestalt Properties LLC to JJ Rockets LLC, 148 E 20th Ave., \$175,000. Richard Rhoades to Win Plus Management LLC, 711 E. Ninth Ave., \$45,000. John Rozgonyi Jr. to Isumi Presberry, 124 W. Eugene St., \$127,938.

Neville

Eric Zucchero to Michele Gusic, 6702 Grand Ave., \$135,000.

North Fayette

Carole Gresh to Yerzhan Bagalgyev and Aiperi Imankulova, 2636 Birchwood Ln, \$235,000. RD3 Property Solutions LLC to Craig Andrew Hamman and Jennifer Pilewski, 200 Commodore Drive, \$355,000. Dean Roberts to Ryan and Katie Gregg, 107 Hollyberry Circle, \$378,000. Entech Princeton Place LLC to Maronda Homes LLC, property, 310 Regent Ct, \$74,100. Francine Hauldren to M&B McKnight LLC, 7395 Steubenville Pike, \$112,500. Timothy Heinz to Donald Heinz, 7640 Steubenville Pike, \$110,000. Jeffrey Joseph Leir to Evita Bianchi and Maria Olivo, 309 Woodcrest Drive, \$215,000.

North Versailles

Michael McNeal IV to Robert Fisher, 1830 Howell St., \$215,000. Bruce Paterson to David Sayles, 2042 Luehm Ave., \$83,500. Estate of Albert Roney to Becky Jo Streiff, 512 Overhill Drive, \$99,000. Thomas Scheirer to Anthony Farace, property, Wabash St., \$2,000.

O'Hara

Wayne Beckemeyer to Zachary and Rachael Mary Moustader, 110 North Oak Hill Road, \$449,000. James Ricker to Angela Raley Stutzman, 112 Riverview Ave., \$227,400.

Oakdale

Jeffrey D'Eramo to Brandon and Victoria Brown, 211 Cottonwood Drive, \$235,000.

Oakmont

Brooks & Blair Homes Oakmont LLC to Hiran and Susan Fernando, 4 Allegheny Ave., \$1,211,397. Routes 63 & 113 Harleysville LLC to Oakmont Community Foundation, service station or oil storage site, 507 Allegheny Ave., \$500,000. Kathleen Shutt to Mary Ryan, 261 Commons Drive, \$177,000.

Ohio

Kevin Brown to Bryan and Chelsea Nicole Grefe McCann, 224 Laurel Oak Drive, \$712,500.

Penn Hills

Rachel Tribley to Avid Holdings 1801 LLC, 938 Seventh St., \$27,200. Estate of Kenneth Wagner to Steven and Rebecca Grabill, 129 Ange Drive, \$90,000. Ian Volkwein to Robert Davide and Kelly Muldoon, 5622 Bower Ave., \$178,100. Frank Gilbert III to Jonathan and Constance Gamble, 119 Castle Drive, \$137,500. Kimberly DiPietro to Matthew Ryan and

Real estate transfers

DEEDS, FROM PAGE E-7

Drive, \$120,000. Lisa Harden to Jessica McClellan, 211 Cool Springs Road, \$175,000.

Whitehall

Min Suk Yoo to Robert and Kathleen Amicone, 4744 Child Drive, \$320,000. Daene Vito Boehme to Braniks Properties LLC, 767 Dunn Drive, \$243,500. Jonathan Kalchthaler to Hari Kala Chhetri and Chandra Khatwada, 531 Greenlee Road, \$220,000. Thomas Assad to Caitlin Hornyak, 3209 Mayflower Drive, \$200,000. Estate of Joel Kalas to GRK Consulting LLC, 4952 Mcanulty Road, \$35,000. Kurt Sehn to James and Heather Buehler, 202 Parkside Ln, \$290,000. NVR Inc. to Michael Mazzone, property, 141 Providence Way, \$261,888. NVR Inc. to Gay Adams, property, 145 Providence Way, \$267,650. NVR Inc. to Audrey Downs, property, 147 Providence Way, \$248,525. NVR Inc. to Ashley Lauren Gallagher, property, 149 Providence Way, \$285,580. NVR Inc. to Winston and Karen Kallam, 196 Providence Way, \$350,400. Ronald Schmidt to Dilli and Robin Dhital, 204 Thomas Drive, \$223,000.

Wilkins

Pennymac Loan Services LLC to Cristian Marcel Ilut, 115 Semmens St., \$22,800. Wilkins RE LLC to JRJB Realty Corp., restaurant, 3410 William Penn Highway, \$1,440,000.

Wilkesburg

Rebekah Shriver to MT & SS Investment Inc., 839 Ardmore Blvd., \$15,000. Janet Frontera to Jonathan and Blanche Coley, 7338 Beacon Hill Drive, \$130,000. Neville Lawrence to Mark and Joanne Vesce, 2001 Chalfant St., \$70,000. Michael Carroll to James Marino, 439 Peebles St., \$157,000.

Wilmerding

John Liveratti to IBUYPITTSBURGH INC, 612 Airbrake Ave., \$14,000.

Beaver County

Aliquippa

Cosby Bell to Paris and Lekesha Cobb, 212-214 First Ave., by sheriff's deed \$1,697 (state deed transfer stamps indicate a value of \$62,240) (). Jamie Lee Myers to Mackenzi Rae Woolsey, 2368 Academy St., \$130,000 (). Bologna Properties LLC to Fred Bologna Jr., 1702 Filmore St., \$1 (state deed transfer stamps indicate a value of \$117,576) (). Gary Eichler to Marcus Anderson, 1611 Jackson St., by sheriff's deed \$2,391 (state deed transfer stamps indicate a value of \$110,400) (). Fred Persi et al. to Jeffrey Milliner, property, Montini St., by sheriff's deed \$854 (state deed transfer stamps indicate a value of \$1,104) (). Dunkin Enterprises LLC to Kevin Anderson and Michael Robert Fleck, 1815 Polk St., \$172,650 (). Michael Ralich to Hill International Property Aliquippa LL, industrial site, 701 Steel St., \$2,350,000 ().

Ambridge

RFM Associates L.P. to GEMK LLC, industrial site, 12 Century Drive, \$785,000 (). WJK Real Estate Holdings LLC to Nery Rolando Monroy Sandoval, 333 Locust St., \$65,000 (). Timothy Hillcock to Gurkaran Singh, 353 Locust St., \$133,000 (). Sofikos Properties LLC to Lock & Key Properties II LLC, 1036 Melrose Ave., \$140,000 (). First National Bank to SBO Group LLC, 546 Pine St., \$40,000 (). Robert Szymoniak to AT-ST II LLC Series K, 2896 Ridge Road Ext., \$89,500 ().

Baden

Dorothy Starr to Dorothy Starr and Jen-

nifer Monahan, 1095 Collins Ave., \$1 (state deed transfer stamps indicate a value of \$64,722) (). William Simmons to Shannon Reynolds, 394 Prospect St., \$137,500 (). Hoffmeier Holdings LLC to Eric and Daisy Clark, 557 Straube Ave., \$154,900 ().

Hopewell

Thomas Alexander to Adam White and Christine Domitrovich, 5513 Buseman Ave., \$235,000 (). Joseph Cipriani to Dwayne Mihalow, property, Maratta Road, \$25,000 (). Dunkin Enterprises LLC to Katie Maguire, 1327 Sunset Ave., \$218,000 (). Lynsey Castor to Nicholas Falcone and Kristina Rae Alma Fayad, 115 Woodcock Drive, \$148,000 ().

Butler County

Adams

Cypress Fields L.P. to Infinity Custom Homes L.P., property, 301 Leyland Ct, \$195,000 (). Kenneth Russo to 403 Point View LLC, 403 Pointe View Drive, \$304,900 (). Maronda Homes LLC to Mark and Karen Conklin, 105 Ridge Top Drive, \$631,863 (). Fred Hespeneheide to NVR Inc., property, Whitetail Meadows Trl, \$85,628 ().

Buffalo

Nathan Fomaini to Eric and Nika Hazen, 109 Bayberry Drive, \$429,000 (). Otto Osteried trustee to John and Anna Selinger, 225 Harbison Road, \$291,500 (). NVR Inc. to Steven Oertel and Donna Toik, 115 Hidden Cliff Road, \$375,468 (). Joseph Sturgeon to Sierra Blanca Properties L.P., 555 S Pike Road, \$90,000 ().

Butler Township

Philip Peters to Carla O'Neill, 130 Buttercup Road, \$175,000 (). George Frishkorn to David and Rebecca Furst, 216 Rural Drive, \$300,000 (). Alison Wick to Richard and Susan Hepler, 4 Woodrow St., \$38,000 ().

Butler

George Zacherl to Colby Rene Mainhart, 227 Amy Ave., \$52,000 (). Timmy Shepard to Ariana Judith Baird, 406 Charles St., \$62,900 (). Derek Ley to Amanda Callen, 214 Summit St., \$115,000 ().

Center

Sean Bisbey to William and Sara Dobson, 430 Holyoke Road, \$280,000 (). Charles Bonner trustee to Jody Nodge, property, 260 Pinehurst Road, \$1 (state deed transfer stamps indicate a value of \$7,559) (). Karen Padgleg to Donald and Rebecca Fuechslin, property, 111 Roads End Ln, \$1 (state deed transfer stamps indicate a value of \$12,794) (). Shane Allison to Jeffrey Crede, 167 S Brook Road, \$254,000 (). James Tar Jr. trustee to Shelby Campbell, 112 Watterson Ln, \$140,000 ().

Cranberry

Greg Miller trustee to Adam and Nola Vish, 100 Autumn Hill Drive, \$400,000 (). HPA US LLC to HPA 2 Borrower 2020-2 LLC, 524 Grandshire Drive, \$10 (state deed transfer stamps indicate a value of \$474,300) (). Rochester Road Investment Co. to Andrew and Jenna Platek, 307 Harlequin St., \$517,400 (). Rochester Road Investment Co. to Balkaran and Maureen Mann, 305 Harlequin St., \$573,255 (). Edward Steinmetz to Michael Melampy and Susan Heinz, 705 Helen Court, \$355,000 (). NVR Inc. to Kevin and Catherine Slane trustee, 114 Hidden Cliff Road, \$421,204 (). Estate of Norman Bush to Yuanyou Yang, 205 LaGrande Drive, \$420,000 (). David Crum to Ji Yong Chen, 930 Lynwood Court, \$190,500 (). Eric Gordon to Paul and Megan Holenick, 8038 Maureen Drive, \$460,000 (). Rochester Road

Investment Co. to Carol Collins, 115 Meeder Ln, \$389,990 (). Hannah Marie Tyler Andolina to Mackenzie Walker, 147 Moyer Hill Drive, \$273,085 (). Jayne Staub to David Phelps and Arlene Smith, 405 Parkwood Drive, \$163,000 (). Mary Cheriana to Alexander William and Kelli Lauren Binder, 229 Sandalwood Drive, \$195,000 (). Daniel Widmaier to Dennis Crawford and Kelly Riddle, 517 Ten Point Ln, \$230,000 (). John Taylor to BGRS Relocation Inc., 600 Toftree Drive, \$735,000 (). BGRS Relocation Inc. to Nicholas and Lauren Bonazza, 600 Toftree Drive, \$735,000 ().

Jackson

NVR Inc. to Ronald and Marianne McMurray, 310 Camden Drive, \$380,295 (). NVR Inc. to Benjamin and Emily Burkle, 217 Dior Drive, \$448,415 (). WR Dev Co. LLC to Maronda Homes LLC, property, 103 Grove Hill Ln, \$102,168 (). Martin Zimmel to Nathan and Katie Kish, 221 Old Hickory Road, \$425,000 (). David Moore Jr. to Jonathan Jurinko and Natalie Druschel, 163 Rylie Drive, \$242,000 (). Ronald McMurray to Ryan and Giulia Sullivan, 115 Timberview Trl, \$429,000 (). Spring Valley Partners 2 L.P. to George Simok Jr., 1001 Yorkshire Way, \$334,000 ().

Mars

Janice Colli to G Michael and Jenifer Fleming, 517 Cherry St., \$180,000 ().

Middlesex

Gigliotti Holdings L.P. to NVR Inc., property, Eagle Ridge Drive, \$115,000 (). Gigliotti Holdings L.P. to NVR Inc., property, Eagle Ridge Drive, \$115,000 (). NVR Inc. to Richard and Deanna Schneider, 3044 Humbolt Pl, \$437,790 (). NWPA Property Dev L.P. to NVR Inc., property, 2042 Ringold Ct, \$92,000 ().

Seven Fields

Robert Foss to Pamela Hughes, 138 Woodhaven Drive, \$165,000 ().

Zelenople

William Eppinger to Daniel Fritch, 311 E Beaver St., \$226,800 ().

Washington County

Canonsburg

Donald O'Donnell Jr. to Coulson Holdings LLC, 205 First St., \$129,000.

Cecil

Patrick Sullivan to Eligio A Cardona Irizarry and Sandra L Fernandez Monteagudo, 2013 Bandek Ln, \$325,000. NVR Inc. to Kara Descenzo, 123 Black Oak Ln, \$286,220. NVR Inc. to Sean and Jenna Parkhurst, 2012 Dandry Drive, \$524,905. Overlook at Southpointe LLC to NVR Inc., property, Kensington Drive, \$122,648. Gregory Foltz to Ryan and Jennifer Hoffman, 1004 King Edward Drive, \$291,000. Edward Little to Divot Acquisitions LLC, State Route 980, \$2,120. Bridget Lee Buxton to Craig and Sarah Pequinot, 1061 Windance Drive, \$405,000.

North Strabane

Metz Development Inc. to NVR Inc., property, Greystone Drive, \$90,000. Candi Irene Boswell to Clifton and Debra Ubel, 922 Royal Ct, \$255,000. Mary Jane Ostermann to Silvano Catalucci, 2016 Trillium Ct, \$238,900. Shaun Conrad to HPA US2 LLC, 1097 Woodlawn Drive, \$373,000.

Peters

John Groll to Christopher Colucci and Kyeigh Suesser, 720 E McMurray Road, \$239,500. Estate of Robert Elmes to Anthony Konopka, 188 Friar Ln, \$177,901. NVR Inc. to John and Courtney Golembiewski, 366 Juniper Way,

\$690,000. James Veri to Charles and Claire Morinello, 146 Sherwood Drive, \$418,000. Robert Armoni to Aaron Atiff and Anna Shlyahovsky, 114 Springbrook Drive, \$760,000.

South Strabane

Mark Allen Day to Michael Anthony Long and Biak Tha Hnem, 252 Crest Ave., \$204,044. NVR Inc. to Jeremy and Paige Noah, 228 Stevens Ct, \$291,655.

Washington

Estate of Elizabeth Bruno to Troiano Properties LLC, car dealership or parking garage or car wash, Addison St., \$2,300. Bud Frey to Mariela E Pizzaro Abalos and Angelica Abalos Lopez, 806 1/2 Broad St., \$2,500. Henderson Avenue Trust to Black Sugar 23 LLC, 135 Henderson Ave., by sheriff's deed \$10,000 (state deed transfer stamps indicate a value of \$82,140). Robert A Bruno & Co. Inc. to Troiano Properties LLC, 335 Jefferson Ave., \$193,200. Estate of Robert Bruno to Troiano Properties LLC, 345 Jefferson Ave., \$34,500. Dennis Jones to Benjamin Seitz, 46 Laurel Ave., \$60,000.

Westmoreland County

Derry Township

Estate of Leonard Puskar to Anthony Riviera, 2214 Dailey Ave., \$98,000 (). Sally Midlam to Cole Kramer, 189 Oasis Road, \$186,000 (). Scott Toman et al. to Richard Kraynak, property, Route 982, \$3,815 (). Estate of Annabelle Leighty to John and Ruthann Fletic, 200 Seger Road, \$400,000 (). Laura Louise Pickels to Samuel White, 1927 Walnut Drive, \$12,000 ().

Donegal Borough

Sarah Harkcom to Judith Shaffer trustee, 211 Water St., \$155,000 ().

Donegal Township

William Steele II to Mary Ann Grant, property, 228-340 S Deer Fern Road, \$45,000 ().

Export

HKM Property Investors LLC to Rachel Ferri, 5844-5846 Roosevelt Ave., \$75,000 ().

Greensburg

Stonekim Properties LLC to Chelsted Limited Family Partnership, commercial property, 101 Ehalt St., \$1,087,400 (). Frederick Krupp to 126 N 2nd St. LLC, 410 George St., \$69,900 (). Patricia Schultz to US Bank NA, 556 Hamel St., by sheriff's deed \$1,274 (). Total Real Estate Solutions LLC to Shawn Miller, 110 Laird St., \$13,000 (). Reverse Mortgage Solutions Inc. to Tacit Ventures LLC, 727 Ludwick St., \$30,300 (). Garrett Lipicky to Barbara Jaram, 452 N Pennsylvania Ave., \$40,000 (). Susan Baker to Ray Flowers Jr. and Rachel Flowers, commercial property, 503 New Alexandria Road, \$365,000 (). Estate of Linda Parks to Christopher Tucci, 137 S Lincoln Ave., \$120,000 (). GMTN Greensburg LLC to Hartman Holdings LLC, commercial property, 1040 Towne Square Drive, \$1,750,000 ().

Hempfield

Kristin Gansor to Ryan Gilkey, 728 Arona Road, \$1 (state deed transfer stamps indicate a value of \$34,373) (). Michael Kimmel to Ryan Auld and Vanessa Ranalla, 873 Bovard Luxor Road, \$195,500 (). Jeffrey Fabean to Robert and Amy Dell, 225 Braveheart Drive, \$425,000 (). James Lynn Dilis to Dana DeMarco, 2405 Brownfield Drive, \$225,000 (). Warren Kemerer to Matthew Hankey, mobile home site, 121 Grange Road, \$35,000 (). Marcella Szymarek to Michael and Kelly Hazlinsky,

109 Justice Ln, \$201,000 (). Buren Palmer II to Brandon Datz and Marcella Elaine Grace, 235 Murdock Way, \$330,000 (). John Delaney to Delaney Greensburg Service Lot LLC, commercial property, Old Route 30, \$1 (state deed transfer stamps indicate a value of \$61,803) (). John Delaney to Delaney Greensburg Body Shop Lot LLC, commercial property, 143 Old Route 30, \$1 (state deed transfer stamps indicate a value of \$818,165) (). William Hewitt to Shane Smith, 948 Paul St., \$149,000 (). Vincent DeTore to Kimberley Restagno, 107 Pond Ln, \$157,500 (). Marlin Zelmore Jr. to JT Homes LLC, 514 Sells Ln, \$110,000 (). Harold Rice to Nicholas Anthony Walton, 140 Sprung Ln, \$185,000 (). Edward Garofolo to George and Gwendolynn Moreland, 506 Willowood Drive, \$413,000 ().

Jeannette

Charles Gregory to John and Lorraine Craft, 301 Hickory St., \$174,000 (). Estate of Martin Frederick to Paulius Sta- bacinkas and Scott Lloyd Krusey Jr., commercial property, 107 S Sixth St., \$40,000 (). Estate of Harold Boswer to Huntington National Bank, 409 Sloan Ave., by sheriff's deed \$2,526 (). Tanya Lea Conde to Anthony Greendonner and Cameron Fennell, 700 Wylie Ave., \$99,000 ().

Latrobe

Billie Taylor to Latrobe Foundation Inc., 1649 Catherine St., \$64,000 (). Patrick Lally to St. Vincent College Corp., commercial property, Unknown Address, \$292,610 (). Vaughn Dickson to Aaron and Jordan Good, 830 Walnut St., \$196,200 ().

Lower Burrell

Michael Florina to Christopher and Erica Diller, 510 Arizona Drive, \$210,000 (). Nick Veltri to Michael and Lisa Florina, 504 Melina Drive, \$245,000 (). Adam Kaminski to Gosta Frantz, 20 Nanak Drive, \$335,000 ().

Monessen

David Smith to Dawn McDavis, 414 Fourth St., \$10,000 (). 1st Choice Home Improvements LLC to Wealth Capital Group LLC, 27 Columbus Drive, \$6,000 (). Nick Vatakis to Justin Kubicek, 16 High St., \$136,000 (). Home Partners LLC to Matthew Cemerino, 111 Knox Ave., \$3,500 (). Monessen Redevelopment Authority to Kimberly Hollis, 605 Knox Ave., \$68,000 (). Power Playaz Investment Group LLC to Wealth Capital Group LLC, 1121 Reservoir Ave., \$14,000 (). 1st Choice Home Improvements LLC to Wealth Capital Group LLC, 635 S 14th St., \$2,000 ().

Murrysville

Estate of John Torrance Jr. to Hillstone Village Development L.P., agricultural land, Hamison City Road, \$1,000,000 (). Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corp. to Family Realty Pittsburgh LLC, 3312 Hills Church Road, \$55,900 (). Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corp. to Family Realty Pittsburgh LLC, 3312 Hills Church Road, \$55,900 (). David Mayemik to Paul and Lacey Glonta, property, 4099 Manor Oaks Ct, \$155,000 (). Theodore Livingstone to Michael Kimmel and Heather Metro, 3516 McWilliams Road, \$297,000 (). Misty Lynne Cauthen to Shane Healey, 258 Rainprint Ln, \$150,000 (). Abdul Khan to Sehr Abodes LLC, property, 3057-3509 Regent Ct, \$350,000 (). Billie Jo Zurich to Allison Silvestri, 2315 Wheatland Cir, \$305,000 ().

New Kensington

Eric Tola to Thomas and Amy Hedfors, 459-461 Freepost St., \$72,000 ().

North Huntingdon

Estate of Joan Gongaware to Laura

Morgan, 10795 Collins Ave., \$80,000 (). Ryan Neel to Nancy Ann Whitley, 9858 Deerfield Drive, \$200,000 (). John Ed III to David and Michelle Lassley, 10031 Edgewood Ct, \$489,900 (). Craig Yurchison to Antonietta Fiorentino and Patricia DiSasio, 141 Falcon Ridge Drive, \$359,000 (). Estate of John Shon- del to Debra Shondel, 521 Greenfield Ct, \$120,000 (). Charles Michael Jeffers to Justin and Shannon Denney, 1258 Richard Road, \$183,000 ().

Penn Township

Agate Housing LLC to Eighteen North Holdings LLC, 224 McWilliams Road, \$85,000 (). Rivendell Development L.P. to NVR Inc., property, 1055-1057 Moria Ct, \$92,000 (). NVR Inc. to Kathryn Maropis, property, 1019 Rohan Ct, \$287,615 (). RWMS Development RC LTD to Sarder Muhammad Gul and Nighat Muhammad, property, 1003 Skyline Drive, \$75,000 (). Blackthorn Investors LLC to NVR Inc., property, St. Andrews Ct, \$75,000 (). Christopher Kistler to Dennis and Angel Boles, 1012 Sweet-gum Ct, \$375,355 (). Domenic Greco to Colette Kimon, 2007 Trail Side Ct, \$273,000 (). NVR Inc. to Eric and Santana Mechtenberg, 1092 Wedgewood Drive, \$457,070 ().

Rostraver

Michael Metikosh to Dominick and Francine Piscione, property, 250-254 Chicago Ln, \$5,000 (). Mark Stangroom to Ty Reppert, commercial property, 346 Finley Road, \$210,000 (). Entech LLC to Maronda Homes Inc., property, 534 Gardena Drive, \$57,700 (). Estate of Carol Georgulis to Todd James and Karen Ann Russell, 468 Matty Drive, \$230,000 (). Andrea L.P. to Gregory Dixon, property, 141-191 Morningstar Drive, \$55,000 (). Betty Vachon to Phillip Pagliari et al. and Nialyn Pagliari, 234 Starlite Cir, \$315,000 ().

Salem

Frederick Hayes to Gregory and Barbara Grossmann, 202 Lake Drive, \$298,885 (). Albert Furney to Hoy Inc., commercial property, 2841 Route 66, \$311,683 ().

Sewickley

Basista Farms to David and Angel Strickler, agricultural land, Mars Hill Road, \$64,000 (). Jared Filapose to Gino and Jean Rizzi, 1728 Mars Hill Road, \$720,000 (). Estate of Ella Boltich to Raymond and Jean Bacha, 122 Meade St., \$36,000 (). Daryl Lee Shaw to Brandon McGhee, 220 Meade St., \$45,000 (). Frank Fraicola to Joshua Fraicola and Rachel Passaro, 5 Medic St., \$90,500 (). First National Bank PA to Fleet Equipment Inc., bank building, 314 Sewickley Ave., \$105,000 ().

South Greensburg

Mark Stefanick to Robert Lyle Miller IV, 1233 Elm St., \$91,000 ().

South Huntingdon

Charles Janiro Jr. to Gregory Carvallis Jr. and Chelsey Palko, 114 Mopar Ln, \$45,000 ().

Trafford

ABW Properties LLC to Shiamier Snipes, 855 Eighth St., \$3,000 (). Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corp. to RejuvHouse Construction, 341 Short St., \$21,500 ().




Unity

Audrey Toth to Omaha Property Manager LLC, 207 Allegheny Ave., by sheriff's deed \$1,555 (). Mary Jane Makar to Brandon and Alicia Bickerstaff, 251 Ben- nets Road, \$15,000 (). Brian Fumee to John Gray and Chantel Flynn, 1260 Col- lege Drive, \$154,900 (). Scott Critchfield to Rachel Carpenter, 1218 Mission Road, \$130,000 (). Morgan Advanced Ceramics Inc. to 580 Monastery Dr Realty LLC, commercial property, 580 Monastery Drive, \$375,000 ().

rateSeeker.com

Pittsburgh Post-Gazette

Mortgage Guide

Institution	30 yr APR	30 yr Fixed	Product	Rate	Points	Fees	% Down	APR	Phone Number / Website	NMLS # / License #
 Westmoreland Federal Savings & Loan	3.134% 30yr Fixed APR	Rate: 3.125	15 yr fixed	2.375	0.000	\$191	20%	2.391	724-539-9755 www.wfsavings.com	NMLS# 518302
		Points: 0.000	10 yr fixed	2.250	0.000	\$191	20%	2.274		
		Fees: \$191	15 yr jumbo	2.375	0.000	\$191	25%	2.380		
		% Down: 20%	3% DOWN WITH PMI. WE DO NOT SELL OUR LOANS! 10YR JUMBO 2.257% APR							
 Sky Financial Services Inc.	2.433% 30yr Fixed APR	Rate: 2.375	15 yr fixed	1.875	0.000	\$450	20%	1.913	610-282-3000 www.skyfinancialloans.com	NMLS# 141744
		Points: 0.125	10 yr fixed	1.875	0.000	\$650	20%	1.956		
		Fees: \$1050	20 yr fixed	2.375	0.000	\$1050	20%	2.444		
		% Down: 20%	Consistent Rate Leader. Great Rates. Quality Service.							
 West View Savings Bank	3.605% 30yr Fixed APR	Rate: 3.500	15 yr fixed	3.125	0.000	\$495	20%	3.309	724-935-7400 www.wvsvbank.com	NMLS# 662375
		Points: 0.000	20 yr fixed	3.375	0.000	\$495	20%	3.520		
		Fees: \$495	15 yr jumbo	3.125	0.000	\$495	20%	3.210		
		% Down: 20%	30 yr jumbo	3.500	0.000	\$495	20%	3.550		

Rate Criteria: The rates and annual percentage rate (APR) are effective as of 02/16/21. All rates, fees and other information are subject to change without notice. RateSeeker, LLC. does not guarantee the accuracy of the information appearing above or the availability of rates and fees in this table. The institutions appearing in this table pay a fee to appear in this table. Annual percentage rates (APRs) are based on fully indexed rates for adjustable rate mortgages (ARMs). The APR on your specific loan may differ from the sample used. All rates are quoted on a minimum FICO score of 740. Conventional loans are based on loan amounts of \$165,000. Jumbo loans are based on loan amounts of \$510,401. Lock Days: 30-60. Points quoted include discount and/or origination. Payments do not include amounts for taxes and insurance. The APR may increase after consummation and may vary. FHA Mortgages include both UFMIP and MIP fees based on a loan amount of \$165,000 with 5% down payment. Points quoted include discount and/or origination. Fees reflect charges relative to the APR. If your down payment is less than 20% of the home's value, you will be subject to private mortgage insurance, or PMI. VA Mortgages include funding fees based on a loan amount of \$165,000 with 5% down payment. If your down payment is less than 20% of the home's value, you will be subject to private mortgage insurance, or PMI. "Call for Rates" means actual rates were not available at press time. To access the NMLS Consumer Access website, please visit

02.21.21

HIGHER *Virtual* LEARNING

SPRING EDUCATION GUIDE //



A pandemic shift

COVID-19's impact on what students will choose to study after high school isn't entirely clear. But health care, STEM programs are expected to continue to be strong, academics say

By Deana Carpenter

At Community College of Allegheny County, administrators keep a close eye on job postings for the county and also on what programs students are spending their hard-earned money as they sign up for classes that will help prepare them for an uncertain future.

So far, the two data points seem to be pretty well-aligned.

"Programs that are doing particularly well include: nursing and other health programs, STEM programs, business programs and the skilled trades," said CCAC spokeswoman Elizabeth Johnston, after checking on spring and fall enrollment stats.

"Many of these programs align with careers that are in high demand in the region," she added.

Ms. Johnston said data obtained from the Pennsylvania Department of Labor and Industry's Center for Workforce Information and Analytics shows nearly half of the top 20 job postings in Allegheny County for those with an associate degree are for health-related occupations — with nursing being at the top. Business- and service-related professions accounted for the remaining top 20 regional job postings among those with an associate degree.

While it may be too early to begin to predict the future of higher education in a post-pandemic America, a number of some area academic professionals think the growth in students majoring in health care, as well as science, technology, engineering and math, will likely continue.

"STEM and health care broadly — those have been the trends," said David Pidgeon, a spokesperson for Pennsylvania's State System of Higher Education, which encompasses 14 universities. The pandemic's full impact is still to be seen.

"It's a little difficult now to be able to correlate (what will be popular) to what we're seeing right now because we are in the middle of it," Mr. Pidgeon added.

According to the State System of Higher Education's preliminary 2020 enrollment census, the top five fields of study for undergraduate students across the 14 schools in the fall of 2020 were: STEM fields, business, health professions, education and psychology.

"It seems that we'll need more data to fully understand. And more time will need to pass before we fully understand," said Nelson Chipman, assistant vice president for academic affairs at Point Park University.

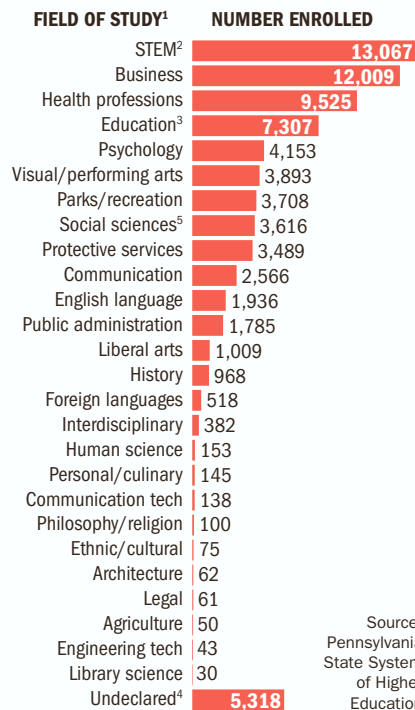
"Right now, we're kind of looking at a crystal ball a little bit," he said.

Mr. Chipman, who oversees Point

Comparing fields of study and industry growth

ENROLLMENT BY MAJOR

Number of undergraduate-level majors by field, fall 2020



Source: Pennsylvania State System of Higher Education

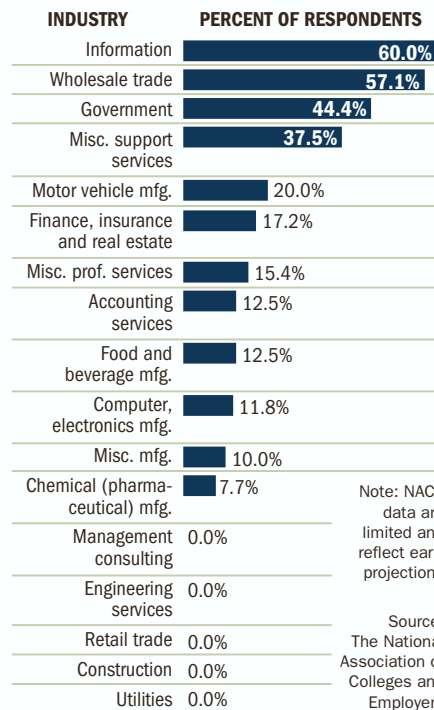
¹Excludes majors that are non-degree and second majors. ²STEM represents science, technology, engineering and mathematics.

³Secondary education majors are counted in their home discipline. ⁴Many students do not declare a major as freshmen. ⁵Social sciences includes criminology; criminal justice is in protective services.

James Hillston/Post-Gazette

INCREASES IN HIRING

Employers planning to increase hires for the 2020-21 academic year, by industry



Note: NACE data are limited and reflect early projections

Source: The National Association of Colleges and Employers



Park's online program, said there was a sense of the path that higher education was following before the pandemic began. He predicts a continued spike in educa-

tional technology, as well as skills-based training.

"I also think that the health care industries that were doing really well anyway will continue, because it's clear how important our health care providers have been," he said.

He said higher education in general has taken a pendulum swing toward more practical-based, skills-based majors.

After watching so many people migrate online to shop for groceries and everything else, Jonas Prida, interim provost at Point Park, said it is not a surprise that supply chain logistics continue to rise in popularity.

"We know that everything that we get through Amazon or however you're ordering stuff online — somebody figured out how that stuff gets to your place the fastest," he said.

What isn't so popular?

In the past few years, not just due to the pandemic, Mr. Chipman said there has been some decline in those pursuing degrees in the traditional liberal arts and

sciences, such as English, literature or history.

He noted that liberal arts are "hugely important for abstract thinking and critical thinking, which actually will be more important going forward than sort of an artificial intelligence-based world."

Additionally, Mr. Prida said interest in some communications fields is waning. "There's been a slow decline because that's not where students live," he said.

"I have a 15-, almost 16-year-old, and with the exception of live sports, he doesn't watch TV. He watches YouTube."

He said universities are going to need to find some way to flip the script on communications and make it more about, "How can I make my TikTok videos into some sort of an entrepreneurial thing so I can make money doing the thing that I love?"

How does the job market compare?

According to the U.S. Bureau of Labor and Statistics, total employment in the United States was projected to grow 3.7% over the period from 2019 to 2029 — but those numbers were calculated before the pandemic.

After the massive job disruptions caused by the pandemic, experts are still trying to figure out how fast the economy will recover.

In that pre-pandemic projection, the Bureau of Labor and Statistics projected health care and social assistance fields would add the most new jobs in 10 years. The bureau credited the growth to the aging baby-boomer population, longer life expectancies and growth in the number of people with chronic conditions.

Meanwhile, the National Association of Colleges and Employers Job Outlook 2021 found the top five industries planning to increase hires for the 2020-21 academic years are: information, wholesale trade, government, miscellaneous support services and motor vehicle manufacturing.

Moving forward

In the future, Mr. Prida said he hopes higher education will become "a little bit more proactive in where it's going than reactive."

"Because that's always been a struggle," he said. "It's kind of producing thinkers for something that already went on instead of producing thinkers for what's going to happen."

Mr. Pidgeon is impressed with the resiliency the students and staff of the universities in the State System of Higher Education have shown throughout the pandemic.

"What we have learned is just how efficient, how quickly and how successfully an entire university and an entire system can adjust from providing in-person instruction to virtual modality," he said.

The faculty and staff have been creative, while the students have been nimble and adjusted quickly to any changes they may have encountered, Mr. Pidgeon said. "They are going to teach us a lot about resiliency."

Deana Carpenter, freelance writer: suburbanliving@post-gazette.com.

A futurist considers what's coming in higher education

By Timothy Lydon

In a matter of weeks and in some cases days, America's colleges and universities were forced last year to change the way they operate.

As the pandemic introduced new conditions and new patterns of behavior, post-secondary institutions across the country transitioned to online learning, testing the theory that higher education requires a student's physical presence.

Research universities, moreover, proved themselves invaluable in the mitigation of the virus by helping to develop vaccines, create forecasting tools and provide the public with easily accessible sources of data.

It was a watershed moment for an industry already facing massive change.

From 1985 to 2012, America experienced what some are calling peak education — a golden age of learning. There was a broadly shared consensus that as many people as possible should go to college, and enrollment rates reflected that. Huge investments were made in ultramodern student centers and dorms with elaborate amenities. The value of the experience was organized around face-to-face classroom instruction and on-campus living.

Since 2012, however, the total number of students in America's colleges and universities has declined each year. The



Getty Images

shift to online learning presents these institutions with a massive challenge but also an enormous opportunity to reverse the trend of declining enrollment and extend the realm of knowledge by educating

more people.

What does this all this mean for the future of higher education?

We talked to Bryan Alexander, author of three books, including his latest, "Aca-

demia Next: The Futures of Higher Education." A futurist, researcher and senior scholar at Georgetown University, the

>> continued on page ED/4



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<< continued from page ED/3

professor took time out to do some future gazing.

Q. Will the pandemic reflect a turning point in attitudes toward online learning?

A: During the course of the pandemic, colleges and universities learned a great deal about how to teach and otherwise work online. It's possible that after the pandemic, we'll see some students prefer the online experience, either for convenience or because they are accustomed to it. Some campuses will try to expand their online offerings. The challenge here is doing so without compromising quality.

Q. Can you talk about the experience of online learning? What are some aspects of education that students may be missing while studying remotely?

A. Online learning experiences are enormously diverse due to the wide range of American institutions, as well as the variety of instructors and their backgrounds. Students may miss parts of the residential or otherwise physically collocated experience, from parties to meeting people and exploring a campus with its local area.

Q. How will demographics alter the future of higher education?

A. We should expect smaller numbers of traditional-age students (18-22 years old, roughly). This will increase competition among institutions teaching that



Gettyimages

population. It may open opportunities for those colleges and universities to expand offerings for adults and seniors, as the latter population grows.

Q. The total number of students in American's colleges and universities has declined every year for almost a decade. What explains this trend?

Several things. First, the massive collapse of enrollment in the for-profit education sector. Second, rising anxiety about student debt and the cost of college. Third, a recent decline in international students. Coming up, a demographic crunch reduc-

ing the number of teenagers.

Q. Women continue to outnumber men on campus, comprising nearly 60% of enrollment in universities and colleges. Rates for men, just over 40%, are at their lowest levels ever recorded. What do you think explains this trend, and do you see it continuing?

A: It seems that more men than women see careers available that don't require postsecondary degrees. This could continue for some time, especially if numbers of men view higher education as unwelcoming.

Q. Are there ways that universities can remedy some of the inequalitarian consequences of higher education?

A: One way is to target resources toward marginalized populations, including advising and mental health support. Another is to address the digital divide by sending students hardware support or tailoring online content to better suit low bandwidth capacity.

Q. The total number of international students worldwide has more than doubled over the last 20 years. How has the recent drop in international travel affected the business model of universities?

A. One impact is financial, as international students represent a significant revenue stream for many campuses. The pandemic accelerates that decline, as fewer learners are able to travel. Indian students are likely to continue coming to the United States, as that nation's enormous population (about to become the world's largest) ramps up demand for postsecondary education beyond local capacity. China has already followed this path. It is an open question if U.S.-China geopolitical tensions will reduce the flow of Chinese students.

Q. Do you foresee a future in which brick-and-mortar universities simply go out of business?

A. Some, yes. America seems to have overbuilt higher education capacity, which means some programs and entire campuses will be consolidated, merged or shuttered.

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1. TOP 3 WEEKEND DAY TRIPS / HANGOUTS?

Allegheny is an easy drive to Pittsburgh, Cleveland, and Niagara Falls, but there's also plenty to do closer to campus. Our hometown, Meadville, anchors an area of 15,000 residents and is where students do everything from enjoying live local music to taking in the latest movies, from creating art installations to participating in service. Students often spend time at the historic Meadville Market House, nearby Woodcock Creek Lake, and the 3,200-acre Presque Isle State Park.

2. WHO IS YOUR MOST FAMOUS GRADUATE?

A leading force in American journalism, Ida Tarbell, Allegheny Class of 1880, is best known for her 19-part series "The History of the Standard Oil Company" published from November 1902 through October 1904 in McClure's Magazine. Published as a book in 1904, Tarbell's work helped focus attention on the growing issue of monopolies in the first decade of the 20th century and was the catalyst leading to the U.S. Supreme Court's landmark 1911 decision to break up the Standard Oil monopoly.

3. WHAT IS THIS COLLEGE'S CLAIM TO FAME?

Allegheny is one of the few colleges in the country to require students to take both a major and a minor — each of which is in a different academic division. For example, a student might combine a major in biology with a minor in music, or a major in English with a minor in international studies. Those combinations help to cultivate intellectual growth and the creative, big-picture thinking desired by employers and graduate schools. Allegheny has been consistently honored among the nation's top liberal arts institutions for undergraduate teaching, research, and first-year experience.

4. HOW MANY COUNTRIES ARE REPRESENTED IN YOUR STUDENT BODY?

Our students represent 62 different countries either through citizenship or living abroad. Our International Education Office in the Allegheny Gateway also regularly hosts passport



ALLEGHENY COLLEGE

fairs where students interested in studying away can apply for a passport free of charge.

5. TOP 3 DEGREES STUDENTS OBTAIN HERE?

As an undergraduate institution, Allegheny awards Bachelor of Arts and Bachelor of Science degrees. Our most popular majors include biology, business, communication arts, environmental science and sustainability, and psychology.

6. BEST PLACE TO GET A MIDNIGHT SNACK?

McKinley's, our campus food court, stays open late for students who want to spend time with friends or recharge with a study break. Fun fact: McKinley's (also known as McKins and 'Kins) is named after William McKinley, the 25th president of the United States and an Allegheny alum.

7. FUN FACT PEOPLE MAY NOT KNOW ABOUT THIS SCHOOL?

Academy Award-winning sound designer Ben Burtt graduated from Allegheny in 1970 with a major in physics. He produced iconic sound effects in the Star Wars film series, including the voice of R2-D2, the heavy-breathing sound of Darth Vader, and the sounds of the lightsabers

and blasters. Burtt's other sound design credits include the Indiana Jones movies, E.T. the Extra-Terrestrial, WALL-E, and Star Trek.

8. HOW DOES THIS SCHOOL HELP STUDENTS FIND INTERNSHIPS, JOBS, AND OTHER OPPORTUNITIES?

The Allegheny Gateway helps students connect classroom learning with real-world experience. Introduced in 2015, the Gateway is a central location for collaboration and study in which students can access résumé and career services, pre-professional and graduate school advising, research funding and fellowships, internships, service opportunities, and more.

9. WHAT KINDS OF ATHLETIC AND RECREATION OPPORTUNITIES DOES THIS SCHOOL OFFER?

As a founding member of both the NCAA and the North Coast Athletic Conference, Allegheny is committed to the philosophy that athletics can and should complement academic life rather than compete with it. The Allegheny Gators field 23 varsity athletic teams that compete in NCAA Division III. We also offer a range of club and intramural sports, with more than 200 students participating in each

of those opportunities.

FINANCIAL AID AND SCHOLARSHIPS

Allegheny's financial assistance allows many students the opportunity to make a college choice based on value and fit, rather than financial constraints. Allegheny awarded more than \$55 million in total aid to students in 2020–21. The College also recently introduced a Top 10 Percent Admissions Program, through which students graduating in the top 10 percent of their class from western Pennsylvania high schools will be automatically offered admission to Allegheny upon completion of their application for admittance. In addition, students admitted through the Top 10 Percent Admissions Program will also qualify for Allegheny's highest and most prestigious Trustee Scholarship, awarded at the level of \$38,000 per year. Trustee Scholarships renew automatically for up to four years of full-time enrollment at Allegheny or in an Allegheny-sponsored off-campus study program.

LEARN OUTSIDE THE LINES



At Allegheny, you'll declare your major during your sophomore year. But that's just the start of it. You'll also be asked to choose a minor from an alternate discipline to keep your perspectives fresh and your mind wide open. Because when you learn outside the lines, you discover things you never knew were possible.



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WAYNESBURG UNIVERSITY, EXTRAORDINARY GROWTH LEADS TO EXTRAORDINARY THINGS

Waynesburg University, a private Christian university near Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, offers more than 70 major concentrations and four integrated bachelors-to-masters programs in business, counseling, criminal investigation and education. The University also offers graduate programs, with some available 100 percent online.

What makes Waynesburg truly special, though, is that its academics are not just about class. They're the foundation for a culture of growth, championed through academic excellence and personalized guidance that nurtures mind, spirit and future. Our undergraduate programs accelerate student growth through hands-on learning, research, internships, leadership work, service trips and career planning.

Beginning freshman year, hands-on learning opportunities abound. You might find yourself analyzing crime scene blood spatter in the Forensic Science Lab, leading a local youth group, writing for the award-winning student newspaper or participating in a variety of other experiential learning opportunities applicable to your major.

VALUABLE GROWTH

Consistently ranked as a top value school, Waynesburg University has emerged as a national leader in educational value. Most recently, Waynesburg was ranked among the top five best value deals of both private and public universities in the northern United States by U.S. News & World Report. The University was also named to MONEY Magazine's 2020 "Best Colleges For Your Money" list, marking the fifth consecutive year.

More than 90 percent of students receive some form of financial aid each year, and tuition, room and board is more than \$11,000 below the national average for a private, non-profit, four-year college.

GROW THROUGH SERVICE

While guiding students in the development of specific skills and talents, Waynesburg also provides opportunities to apply and sharpen them through service. In fact, students, faculty and staff spend approximately 50,000 hours each year working to improve the lives of others.

Service opportunities include service learning



courses, international and domestic mission trips, the Bonner Program and personal service initiatives, among others.

GROW IN GRACE

Waynesburg helps students develop academically and professionally on the foundation of faith. Students may choose to practice their faith every Tuesday at Chapel, in their classes, in prayer or Bible study groups, through their artwork, while they are serving others, or in their own individual ways.

VISIT & APPLY TODAY

Schedule a visit at www.waynesburg.edu/visit and apply online at www.waynesburg.edu/apply.

A photograph of two young women wearing face masks, one with a patterned mask and the other with a yellow mask. They are outdoors with trees in the background. A badge is overlaid on the image.

BEST COLLEGES
U.S. News & World Report
REGIONAL UNIVERSITIES
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Ranked a top 5 best value school

Our student loan default rate of **4.6 percent** is far below the national average of 10.1 percent.

Tuition, room and board at Waynesburg is more than **\$11,000 below** the national average for private, non-profit, four-year colleges.

More than **90 percent** of Waynesburg students receive some form of financial aid each year.

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The Keep Waynesburg Well Health & Safety Plan enabled safe in-person classes last fall.

FINDING SUCCESS IN A WORLD THAT DOESN'T YET EXIST



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Deciding where and how to invest in your education is very important. You don't live in the same world you were born into. It's already changed in a million ways, and it will never stop. Nor will your need to learn and grow.

You were born with innate gifts that are the raw material of your future success. At Carlow University, we nurture them, helping them to mature. It's a quality instilled in us by our founders, the Sisters of Mercy, who shaped the core values of discovery, service, hospitality, mercy and sacredness of creation. Interwoven in these core values is the inherent dignity of all people and the commitment to serve those in need. Carlow has kept its focus on people by connecting with our students, our community and our region.

Carlow University is a co-educational, private Catholic university that offers more than 40 undergraduate programs and 50 graduate programs and certificates.

The fact that people matter at

Carlow is reflective of three of our more popular majors – nursing, biology, and education. These three majors certainly are career-focused, but they also carry a deeper purpose that is driven by a desire to help others, whether through providing hospital bedside care, finding a breakthrough in a laboratory, or by teaching our most precious commodity – the next generation of learners.

Some of Carlow's most in-demand classes also reflect the "people matter" theme because they contain an experiential learning or a service-learning component. At Carlow, these classes can take the form of internships, study-abroad experiences, or research opportunities. Often, they address human and community needs, and are available for all undergraduate and graduate students. They complement classroom learning with hands-on, real-world experiences and prepare students to continue the success

that they have discovered in the classroom. Experiential learning or service-learning classes enhance effective leadership skills, helping Carlow students to carry increased confidence into the workplace, into their graduate studies, and into their communities.

Carlow graduates are highly sought after. The latest Career Outcomes Report indicates that 97 percent of graduates have either a job or acceptance to a graduate program within six months of graduation.

You don't choose Carlow University to just train for a job – you come to prepare for a career and life of perpetual challenges and change.

Ninety percent of traditional undergraduate students receive financial support. Learn more about the University at www.carlow.edu. Or start your application process today by contacting Carlow University's admissions office at admissions@carlow.edu or 412-578-6059.



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- + Generous financial aid and scholarships available
- + Personalized attention with 10:1 student/faculty ratio
- + Diverse, inclusive, welcoming community
- + 97% of Carlow graduates are employed or enrolled in advance degree programs within six months of graduation
- + Private, coeducational values-driven university
- + 14 athletic teams
- + Flexible class schedules with 3-year and accelerated options





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UNCOMPROMISED EDUCATION IN THE WAKE OF ADVERSITY

There is no doubt that 2020 put most of the world into a safety-first mode, which for most industries resulted in the compromise of a quality experience. This was particularly true in education. In-person learning has been inconsistent. Technology, weighted by overuse, is performing mediocre at best. And any aspect of socializing is still being harbored by distance.

But one school in particular took these challenges as an opportunity to reimagine and revolutionize the potential of education. Kiski, an all-boys boarding school in Saltsburg, Pennsylvania, had a plan from the start that was as solid as their reputation.

Through an integrated program called ONE Kiski, the school was able to reconnect students and teachers in person and online, with a synchronous learning style that studies have proven is successful

specifically for young men. This allows students to be together regardless if they are across from each other in the classroom, or across the world. The school also adjusted their block schedule model to allow for maximum flexibility and extended pass time between periods.

Kiski also rolled out a comprehensive Health & Safety Plan that intentionally exceeded CDC guidelines. This plan has enabled on-campus living in a safe and healthy environment, as well as the continuation of athletics and other activities. In tandem, and in light of other issues prevalent in today's world, Kiski developed a Diversity Action Plan with a school-wide focus on diversity and inclusion.

One may think that efforts like these would come at a cost, but that was not so for Kiski. At the same time that they invested in

the educational experience and success of their students, Kiski also lowered tuition by a staggering 20%. They were the first private boarding school in the country to offer such a decrease. The shift was to provide accessibility and affordability to more families, with a promise of complete transparency in costs.

Kiski's approach to education through even the most tumultuous of times provides a beacon of hope not just for their own students and families, but for anyone willing to learn from their efforts. It's not about compromise, with a need to choose between safety or education. Instead, it's about identifying challenges, then employing creativity and solutions to overcome those barriers... and perhaps, even raising the bar in the process.

To learn more about Kiski, visit kiski.org.

DISCOVER KISKI THROUGH OUR UPCOMING VIRTUAL ADMISSION EVENTS.

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Tuesday, Mar. 9, 12 pm - General Information Session

Thursday, Apr. 1, 7 pm - Academic Programs & College Counseling

Open House Via Zoom

Monday, Apr. 19, 7 pm

To register for an Asked & Answered Session or the Open House: kiski.org/VirtualVisit

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For more than 160 years, Edinboro University has been driven by a call to provide the education and experience students need to succeed in an ever-changing world. We continually challenge our students—and our faculty. And when challenged, they always rise to the occasion.

Our accomplished faculty instruct, guide and inspire our students to achieve and lead. From animation and graphic design to nursing, teaching and more, Edinboro's five colleges and schools, with more than 100 majors and minors, provide everything students need to explore their passions and find a career path. So when students leave our campus, they are ready to handle whatever the world throws at them.

Don't just take our word for it. Edinboro University has been recognized in an array of respected national rankings, including the No. 20 spot among Animation Career Review's Top 40 Public Animation Schools and Colleges in the U.S., numerous recognitions for service to military veterans and their families and placement in the U.S. News &

World Report's first-ever social mobility list. For the sixth consecutive year, Edinboro's online graduate programs in education and nursing have ranked in the Top 100 in U.S. News & World Report's "Best Online Programs."

The Edinboro experience extends well beyond the classroom. Our students prepare for careers and life through hands-on learning, collaborative research with faculty, varsity and recreational athletics, academic honor societies, global travel and internships. A vibrant campus life offers seemingly endless opportunities to get involved, stay active and develop leadership skills.

Edinboro students live, work and play in state-of-the-art facilities on our picturesque 585-acre campus. With welcoming residence hall communities, unparalleled academic support services and student organizations to fit every interest, Edinboro quickly feels like home.

Located just 20 miles south of Erie, the fourth-largest city in Pennsylvania, Edinboro is bustling with exciting activities and access to incredible

outdoor recreation in every season. Students have easy access to a professional symphony, an acclaimed community theater, professional sports teams, art museums, indoor and outdoor waterparks and seven miles of beaches at Presque Isle State Park.

Acclaimed artists and animators, innovative video game designers, renowned research scientists, published authors and leaders in business, education, criminal justice, healthcare and many other in-demand fields have built the foundations of their success at Edinboro University.

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Majors or Degrees Offered: Edinboro University offers more than 100 majors and minors, including Art/Cinema, Nursing, Early Childhood and Special Education, Criminal Justice, Social Work, Marketing and Exercise Science. Explore the endless possibilities for customizing your education at edinboro.edu/programs.

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Edinboro.edu

Pa. push to back efficient energy draws heat

Shell says cracker could fact \$7 million hit

By Laura Legere
Pittsburgh Post-Gazette

The Wolf administration's plan to put a price on power plants' carbon dioxide emissions gives special treatment to a highly efficient form of generating energy from fossil fuels.

The technology, known as combined heat and power, creates both electricity and useful heat, increasing energy efficiency for manufacturers, hospitals, university campuses, and urban heating and cooling systems.

It is embraced as a vital tool for driving down energy demand in the industrial and building sectors and as a way to mitigate — and build resilience to — climate change.

But advocates for the technology say the administration's draft regulations do not do enough to protect combined heat and power plants from new costs that could

discourage broader adoption of the systems — and, in one case, could force an existing plant offline periodically in favor of cheaper power from plants with higher carbon emissions.

The state Department of Environmental Protection noted the value of combined heat and power when it crafted a plan to create a carbon emissions cap and pricing program, saying the systems both reduce emissions and benefit the economy.

The proposal is part of Gov. Tom Wolf's controversial plan to join the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative, a multistate pact for cutting climate warming emissions.

How Shell Chemical's cracker plant fits in

In combined heat and power

SEE **CARBON**, PAGE F-2



Andrew Rush/Post-Gazette

Shell Chemical Appalachia's ethane cracker plant in Potter, Beaver County, will include a combined heat and power plant to generate electricity and useful heat. Advocates say the state needs to protect the technology.



Photos courtesy of Wabtec Corp.

A Wabtec train moves along a test track in Colorado. The North Shore-based company developed positive train control, or PTC, a safety system that aims to override human error. PTC is now equipped on all major freight and transit railroads in the U.S.

ON THE FAST TRACK

Wabtec system puts fully automated railroads within view

By Anya Litvak
Pittsburgh Post-Gazette

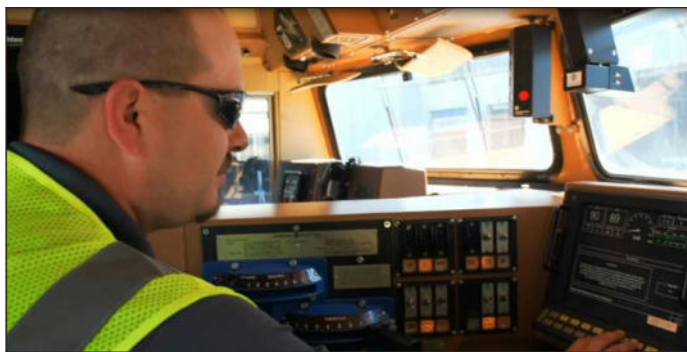
At the end of 2020, the U.S. rail system reached a milestone decades in the making and seeded by technology developed at North Shore-based Wabtec Corp.

All major freight and commuter railroads are now equipped with a safety system called positive train control, which aims to override human error to prevent collisions, derailments and other safety hazards.

To do this, train operators had to outfit their locomotives, their train tracks and their operating rooms with sensors, computers and satellite communication instruments so the safety mechanism can react to conditions in real time. Now that all that communication is in place, total automation isn't that far off in the horizon, said Nalin Jain, group president of digital electronics at Wabtec.

"A lot of our problems and accidents that happen are driven by human error," Mr. Nalin said.

And with a huge market — more than \$690 billion worth of goods travels by rail, according to federal statistics, including critical commodities such as coal, ethanol, grain and steel — comes huge responsibility.



An engineer uses Wabtec's Trip Optimizer system, which is like cruise control for locomotives. Wabtec sees automation growing in the rail industry, with the potential for driverless trains in the near future.



A Wabtec locomotive glides on a test track in Colorado.

But safety isn't the only thing that can be improved by crunching this much data all the time. Fuel savings, equipment maintenance and scheduling can — and already do — benefit from technology developed for positive train control.

With enough sensors and computing power, it may be possible to remove humans from the equation within the next decade, Mr. Nalin predicted.

In fact, full automation is the top goal of a technology ladder that Wabtec has made part of its investor presentation. At the bottom is the foundation on which it all rests: positive train control, or PTC.

"The next big thing," predicted Patrick Ottensmeyer, president and CEO of Kansas City Southern railroad during an industry conference last year, "is using PTC as a springboard to running a more autonomous rail network."

He suggested we're already halfway there and that the "desired future state with autonomous operations" is maybe five or six years away.

Progress down under

To see a real-life example of a totally automated rail network, you would have to travel to

SEE **WABTEC**, PAGE F-2

Ask me about ...

... leading a telecom plan while the world is watching

By Lauren Rosenblatt
Pittsburgh Post-Gazette

Taking on a new role in a pandemic is tricky. For Toni Murphy, that's meant working at a company whose services have become crucial for many of us working and learning from home — and whose services had to adapt to the new normal. In the third quarter of last year alone, her employer Comcast reported picking up 633,000 new high-speed internet customers.

Ms. Murphy, 38, from Peters Township, was recently named senior vice president of Comcast's Keystone Region, where she will oversee operational, strategic and financial performance for the Philadelphia-based company in parts of Pennsylvania, Ohio, West Virginia and Maryland.

The interview has been edited for space.

Let's start with talking about your job. What are your responsibilities?

Essentially what I'm responsible for is all of the financial,

SEE **COMCAST**, PAGE F-2

More business news for our readers

We're pleased this week to unveil our expanded Sunday Business section, giving readers more stories and columns on the financial topics that affect their lives, their jobs and their wallets.

A new weekly feature called "Ask me about ..." will introduce readers to employees, executives and small-business owners each week who will answer questions about their work, their work-life balance, and what it's like to do the jobs that they do and make a living here. The questions might be about success, innovation, resiliency or just what keeps them up at night. The answers will be interesting.

Also weekly, you'll find Scott Sturgis' auto column Driver's Seat and Don Lindich's Sound Advice column here, as well as more news, graphics and columns on personal finance, technology and the local economy. As the pandemic has shown, business news is more important than ever.

— Pittsburgh Post-Gazette

Weekly check of the numbers

Market pulse

These rates are as of close of markets Thursday.

PRIME RATE	TREASURY BILL	TREASURY BILL
3.25%	3-month 0.03	6-month 0.04

Commodities

CRUDE OIL	NATURAL GAS	GASOLINE
\$60.52	\$3.08	\$2.887
-\$0.62	-\$0.14	+\$0.091

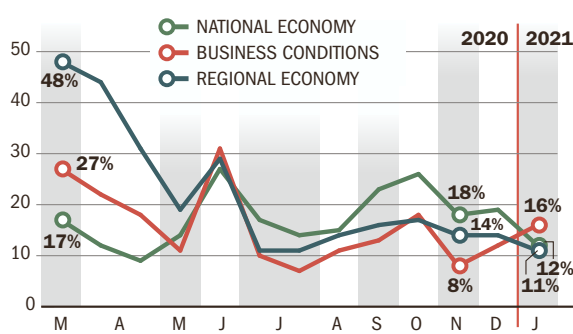
Precious metals

GOLD	PLATINUM	SILVER
\$1,774.60	\$1,282.80	\$27.08
+1.80	+\$25.10	-\$0.24

Consumer confidence hasn't come back yet

Consumer confidence in the current economy continues to trend very low, based on information from Schmidt Market Research and a group of 5,000 southwestern Pennsylvania residents. While also low, positive sentiments toward business conditions have doubled since November, likely reflecting holiday spending and post-holiday easing of business restrictions.

PERCENT OF RESPONDENTS FEELING POSITIVE



Sources: The Associated Press, Allegheny Conference on Community Development James Hilston/Post-Gazette

Driverless trains appear to be on deck as Wabtec safety system takes hold

WABTEC, FROM F-1

Western Australia, where Rio Tinto, the world's biggest mining company, runs driverless trains on more than 1,000 miles of track. The trains haul iron ore from its mines.

In 2019 at a mining and steel conference, Rio Tinto's CEO called those trains "the world's largest robots." Wabtec technology is inside of their cabs.

"It's hard not to look at Rio Tinto and speculate when and if," said Mike Rush, senior vice president of safety and operations with Washington-based industry group The Association of American Railroads. "You can certainly look at Australia and taste it."

But Rio Tinto's operating environment is a far cry from the U.S. rail network.

There, one company that owns its own track and trains has control over all the variables without the hassle of highway crossings or other impediments. It feeds those variables into the computer, which schedules and operates train trips.

The U.S. has seven Class 1 railroads — the biggest freight haulers — and hundreds of regional and smaller systems. One company's trains can travel on tracks operated by another company, each operator with its own scheduling needs.

'How digital electronics won'

"If you look at the history of automation in any industry, there are safety benefits and business benefits," Mr. Rush said.

In other words, if you've developed a way for trains and tracks to

communicate their conditions to some central brain, the data — and those communication channels — can be used for more than just safety. With help from machine learning algorithms, it can already help train operators pilot trains in such a way that they save fuel by minimizing breaking or prevent equipment damage.

Wabtec also makes technology that can optimize the train's operation to save fuel, avoid breaking and manage speeds.

"Our next mission here is can you go down from a two-man crew on a train to a one-man crew," Mr. Jain said.

The Federal Railroad Administration doesn't mandate a two-person crew in the cab of a train. When legislation was introduced to require that, the American Association of Railroad opposed it, arguing it would stifle innovation.

Crew size has traditionally been a topic for collective bargaining negotiations, Mr. Rush said.

"The debate over whether you need some eyes in the cab is a debate that could take place at some point. It's not on the table now," Mr. Rush said.

But he was also quick to note there is a whole spectrum of automation between the current state and a driverless train.

Indeed, Mr. Jain said 2020, with all its difficulties, was a good demonstration of "how digital electronics won."

The next milestone, he predicted, will arrive in less time than it took for positive train control.

Anya Litvak: alitvak@post-gazette.com

Dateline Pittsburgh

NATALIE HILL

People on the move

Architecture

WTW Architects named Larry Payne president and CEO.

Associations and Organizations

Nicole M. Pardus, associate attorney at Long & Long LLC, was appointed secretary of the board of directors of Laurel Legal Services.

Chemical

Lanxess announced that Christian Meiners was named chief financial officer in North America.

Education

The Baldwin-Whitehall School District board awarded Superintendent Randal A. Lutz a new five-year contract.

Robert Morris University elected to its membership Brian Kelly, executive vice president and head of PNC Healthcare.

Health

West Penn Hospital, part of Allegheny Health Network, named Jason Roebuck chief operating officer.

Insurance

Henderson Brothers Inc. hired Rachel Thomas as a data analyst, employee benefits practice; Trey Harper



Pardus — Organizations



Lutz — Education



Kelly — Education



Roebuck — Health



Thomas — Insurance



Harper — Insurance



McGrath — Insurance



Iamurri — Law

as a client services associate, HB Retirement; and Casey McGrath as a sales associate, commercial lines department.

Law

Goldsmith & Ogradowski LLC hired Eric A. Iamurri as an associate. Mr. Iamurri focuses on representing commercial vessel and railroad crew members, oil field and pipeline workers, and other industrial workers and their families in serious personal injury and death cases.

Meyer, Unkovic & Scott named Amanda M. Daquelente and Gary M. Sanderson partners. Ms. Daquelente focuses her practice on a wide range of business and corporate transactions, including mergers and acquisitions, divestitures, and reorganizations. Mr. Sanderson focuses on assisting new and established companies

navigate complex transactions and disputes.

Manufacturing

PPG announced the appointment of Pascal Tisseyre as vice president, architectural coatings, Europe, Middle East and Africa South.

Nonprofit

Karen Sartin Slevin was named chief development officer of Hôpital Albert Schweitzer in central Haiti. The position is based at the HAS U.S. Administration headquarters in Pittsburgh.

Professional Services

Aires promoted Bobby Bartle to general counsel.

Solutions 21 promoted Rob Salome to chief operating officer.

Awards and Honors

PPG announced that Leigh-Ann Humbert, PPG senior research manager,

automotive OEM coatings, was recognized with the American Chemical Society Pittsburgh Award for her achievements in the innovation and development of industry-leading coatings technologies.

PPG announced that Shanti Swarup, a retiree and collegium member, was honored with the 2021 Roy W. Tess Award in Coatings. The award is presented by the American Chemical Society's Division of Polymeric Materials: Science and Engineering (ACS PMSE). The annual award recognizes outstanding contributions to coatings science, engineering and technology.

Business notes

Grant Street Associates Inc., a member of the Cushman & Wakefield Alliance, announced that law firm Thomas, Thomas & Hafer LLP has relocated to 525 William Penn Place, Downtown. The firm will occupy 11,871 square feet of office space on the 26th floor of the U.S. Steel Tower.

Dateline Pittsburgh appears on Sundays. To propose an item, send information to Natalie Hill, Dateline Pittsburgh, Pittsburgh Post-Gazette, 358 North Shore Drive, Pittsburgh 15212, or email to nhill@post-gazette.com.

Photos submitted for the print edition version of this column may be sent via email in JPEG format to photos@post-gazette.com. Photo size should be an 8-by-10-inch or 4-by-5-inch headshot at 170 dpi.

Advocates push to protect energy tech

CARBON, FROM F-1

systems, also known as cogeneration, exhaust heat that would be wasted after turning a turbine to create electricity is instead captured and used nearby, erasing the need to build a separate heating or cooling system that would require more fuel. Most new combined heat and power systems in Pennsylvania run on natural gas.

DEP drafted two protections: a set-aside that will reduce the amount of carbon emissions credits a plant has to buy based on how much of its output is consumed onsite, and a limited exemption for plants that send less than 15% of their total useful energy to the electric grid in a year.

The vast majority of Pennsylvania combined heat and power plants are already exempt from the rules because they are too small to qualify.

DEP expects the rules will apply to just three plants in three corners of the state in 2022, the year the rules are supposed to take effect: Shell Chemical Appalachia's petrochemical plant in Beaver County, which is still under construction; a large district heating and cooling system in Philadelphia owned by Vicinity Energy; and a Procter & Gamble plant in northeastern Pennsylvania that makes paper towels, napkins and toilet paper.

One challenge for regulators is that the primary use of two of those facilities is fundamentally different than that of the third.

When combined heat and power is used in large industrial applications — to make

plastic or paper towels — the plants are sized to meet the power and heat needs of the factory with a modest cushion that is generally sold back to the grid.

But when the systems are designed to feed steam to a large urban district, as in Philadelphia, the power plants are sized to meet the cooling and heating needs of customers across many million square feet of building space. All of the electricity is sold to the grid.

Public commenters on the plan have proposed various fixes, from exempting all combined heat and power facilities from the rules to making the limited exclusions more generous so facilities can sell more of their electricity to the grid without having to pay for carbon allowances.

Shell, which said allowances could cost it \$7 million a year at current prices once its power plant comes online, asked regulators to give it until 2024 before having to comply.

Vicinity Energy, which owns the 163-megawatt Grays Ferry district energy system in Philadelphia, said the current draft would treat it more like a conventional natural gas power plant without giving it any of the benefits of a combined heat and power system.

The company said that error is likely unintentional, but the consequence will be that its power plant will lose out to competition from less efficient, higher-emitting plants and will force it to use boilers to create steam. A Vicinity consultant calculated that would result in unnecessary emissions of between

53,000 and 148,000 tons of carbon dioxide each year — equivalent to the emissions of up to 29,000 passenger cars.

Vicinity suggested that DEP tighten the regulation's definition of a cogeneration unit so that it would encompass systems like Grays Ferry but exclude power plants that might try to exploit loopholes. The agency should then create a full set-aside for cogeneration plants so their owners do not have to pay for allowances, the company said.

Michael Krancer, a former DEP secretary who is representing Vicinity, said regulators are rightly concerned that only legitimate combined heat and power facilities should qualify for favorable treatment. Otherwise, he said, "A combined-cycle plant could put a tomato hothouse in the backyard, send some heat in there and claim it's a cogeneration facility — which is, of course, totally bogus."

Already, Tenaska Pennsylvania Partners, which owns a 940-megawatt, gas-fired power plant in Westmoreland County, called the set-aside for combined heat and power plants "discriminatory" and argued that modern, combined-cycle natural gas power plants are just as deserving of a break.

Mr. Krancer said Vicinity's proposed remedy would effectively cover industrial combined heat and power uses, as well as district energy facilities, without opening loopholes.

Facing some headwinds

Some groups with a focus on sustainable energy

suggested the rules should be tailored to account for the benefits of combined heat and power, and they had differing ideas about how generous the treatment should be.

The Philadelphia Energy Authority asked regulators to take care to ensure that the Grays Ferry system and others like it "are considered appropriately to properly incent low-carbon power generation."

The Center for Coalfield Justice recommended that combined heat and power plants should not receive exemptions but should have to pay a quarter of the cost of regular carbon allowances for their emissions, in recognition of their efficiency.

DEP has not yet released a final draft of the carbon pricing rules, but observers expect an exceptionally quick turnaround. Otherwise, the state's regulatory review requirements will make it difficult to finalize the rules in time for Pennsylvania to join the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative on Jan. 1 as planned.

The agency faces headwinds to achieving that goal, including strong opposition from the Republican-led General Assembly.

Earlier this month, the state's Independent Regulatory Review Commission asked the agency to consider delaying the implementation of the rules for a year to give affected power plants time to adjust to potential increased costs.

Laura Legere: llegendere@post-gazette.com

Leading telecommunications strategy while the world is watching

COMCAST, FROM F-1

operational goals associated with the Keystone region. I have the distinct pleasure of leading a large team of diverse leaders across a variety of functions and essentially I'm responsible for thinking about the strategies and the landscapes to make sure they are able to do their very, very best work.

What's a regular day like for you?

I usually start my day with just assessing where the business is and I do that a couple ways. We obviously are very engaged in customer feedback ... so I'll



Toni Murphy

check in and see what were some of the comments of their experiences the day before and make sure that

we are giving kudos to our leaders who have done a great job and our employees who have done a great job.

And then I obviously look at our business results to make sure we're performing where we want to be and assessing where the market is.

We're very conscious that we're in the middle of a pandemic so that's going to help us think about how we take care of our employees, around the virus and making sure people get vaccinated.

Our industry really hinges upon what's happening in the home: Are

people going back to work? Are they going to be staying home still?

How has COVID-19 impacted your role and what is going on at Comcast?

Right away we knew as a company that with this change of folks working from home that we were going to have to step up and support the U.S. economy in whatever way we could. So one of the things we did, we extended our internet essentials program all throughout last year.

We created partnerships with different organizations such as Pittsburgh public schools,

Ambridge school district, the housing authority, and giving all these organizations 60 days of free internet essentials to make sure we were keeping families connected.

How has the financial and strategic planning side of it changed?

We've always been a company that is ready for any outcome and any adjustment and change. We're very flexible in our thinking and we're really guided by our customer feedback. We haven't really talked about the racial injustice side of this but as a company, with the aftermaths of George Floyd, Ahmaud

Arbery and certainly Breonna Taylor, we did make a commitment to fighting racial injustice in our own way — upwards of a \$100 million commitment.

What are some of your specific goals?

Listening to our employees, listening to our customers.

I like to get out in the field to spend time with our technicians and our retail associates to see what their experience is like and how we can improve our business.

Lauren Rosenblatt: lrosenblatt@post-gazette.com, 412-263-1565.

2021 Audi A6 Allroad Quattro is tons of fun

Driver's seat
SCOTT STURGIS

2021 Audi A6 Allroad Quattro Prestige: Love at first sight?

Price: \$74,940 as tested. Prestige Package added driver assistance, heated rear seats, ventilated front seats and more for \$4,500; gray paint, \$595. More below.

Conventional wisdom: Car and Driver likes the “handy wagon body style, chic exterior, silky-smooth V-6 powertrain,” but not that it’s “expensive from the start, dual-screen infotainment takes getting used to, occasional gearbox clumsiness.”

Marketer's pitch: “Trailblazing possibilities.”

Reality: The special kind of love that lasts — at least for a week, or for the right price.

Long-distance love: It's been over two years since I've sat in an Audi, so hopping into the A6 Allroad Quattro made me worry that I was simply feeling the fondness from a long separation.

But when I'd last sat in an Audi at Philly Auto Show 2020 (speaking of lost loves), I found the vehicles too firm in the seat and a little Space Age for my tastes. So I while I was eager to try an Audi again, I didn't expect this.

What's new: The A6 Allroad Quattro station wagon made its return to the U.S. for the 2020 model year. Americans tend not to be wagon fans, but the A6 Allroad should help.

Driver's Seat: As the Goldilocks of the car review set, I can be trusted when I say when this seat is just right. The A6 Allroad's Valcona leather seat (part of the \$2,950 Luxury Package, which also offered more leather and massage) was firm but not hard, easy to adjust and with plenty of ways to go. And massage. Mmmm.

Controls are easy to find and operate, although the left-side cruise control stalk still seems a little too close to the turn signal.

The dashboard features attractive walnut and black coverings, and gauges are mostly easy to read, although the speedometer kind of hides behind the steering wheel. It's just as well.

Play some tunes: Audi has done touchscreens one better in the test model, offering a haptic unit that doesn't rely on a simple light touch. Press firmly enough to make the 12.3-inch screen move, and then your operation proceeds. It makes the bane of most touchscreens — scrolling through lists of channels or songs — much easier, because you can't accidentally choose one instead of continuing to scroll. (I'm glaring at you, Volvo.)

Furthermore, the sound from the Bang and Olufsen system is ideal, an A+.

Keeping warm and cool: The HVAC system uses the same principles in a separate screen. Even though I'm screen-averse — they look expensive to fix and prone to needing it — having its own unit makes the experience much better.



The 2021 Audi A6 Allroad Quattro brings spirited performance and plenty of interior comforts to the station wagon, inspiring romance among at least one auto columnist.



The interior of the 2021 Audi A6 Allroad Quattro is as functional as it is attractive, with a touchscreen that provides real feedback when operated.

Up to speed: I don't usually hurry all that information into the front of the column, so you're probably worried that the Audi is a disaster on the road. But this is my true love story, and so I get to tell it my way.

Fortunately, the performance from the 3.0-liter turbo V6 is all one could

hope for, rocketing the sporty station wagon around country roads and highways with little effort.

The 335-horsepower sends the vehicle to 60 mph in just 5.2 seconds, according to Car and Driver. And the Audi is just a wagonful of fun the whole way.

Shifty: The 7-speed

shiftable automatic transmission is operated by an attractive and easy-to-hold silver T-bar electronic shifter. Push forward for Reverse and pull for Drive or Sport. Paddle shifters round out the options.

The transmission worked well, with a manual mode that easily stays so and an automatic mode that functions nicely.

On the road: Dedicated readers know I could never fall in love with any vehicle less than athletic, and the A6 Allroad Quattro definitely fits the bill here. Country roads, winding creekside lanes, highways, the Allroad covers them all with great delight — tight steering, not much roll and a feeling of zip as the G forces move occupants around. But it never feels like you're going this fast. No, really, Officer.

In the snow: The Quattro system allowed nary a slip or slide in some increasingly bold maneuvers around the hilly township in about 5

inches of snow.

Friends and stuff: The heated rear seat offers plenty of space in the corners, nice legroom, headroom and footroom. The middle seat is a place of suffering.

Audi notes a fairly cavernous-for-the-class 30 cubic feet of cargo space behind the front seat, but no numbers for when the seat is folded.

Fuel economy: The Audi let me know that for the previous 700 miles or so, it was averaging about 24 mpg, which is pretty good. I took that average down a bit, with my acceleration tests and high-speed maneuvers. Premium fuel is recommended, of course.

Where it's built: Neckarsulm, Germany.

How it's built: Consumer Reports predicts the reliability to be 5 out of 5.

In the end: What price love? It's worth it.

Scott Sturgis is a freelance auto writer; mrdrivers-seat@gmail.com.

Startups try to tame online shopping packaging boom

Consumer

By Abha Bhattarai
The Washington Post

The pandemic set off a surge in online shopping — and with it, an avalanche of cardboard boxes and home deliveries. Now a crop of startups is focused on making e-commerce more sustainable by reimagining the disposable box, delivery conventions and mailing schedules.

One such service, Olive, being rolled out by Jet.com co-founder Nathan Faust, is partnering with more than 100 major retailers — including Anthropologie, Paige, Ray-Ban and Ugg — to consolidate home deliveries in reusable tote bags that are dropped off once a week.

Other newcomers, meanwhile, offer reusable plastic mailing boxes, compostable packaging and algae-ink shipping labels.

The efforts are part of a larger shift within the retail industry to eliminate single-use cardboard and plastic as consumers increasingly weigh the environmental impacts of fast and easy shipping. Brands such as Clorox, Haagen Dazs and Seventh Generation are moving toward glass, aluminum and stainless steel packaging that can be returned, cleaned and refilled for subsequent uses, with the help of Loop, a program introduced two years ago at the World Economic Forum.

Sustainability experts say much of the pollution associated with online shopping occurs during “last mile” delivery: that final stretch from warehouse to doorstep. But they say packaging is perhaps an easier — and more tangible — problem to solve.

Consumers' increased reliance on online shopping during the pandemic also put a spotlight on discarded cardboard piling up in recycling bins across the country. Corrugated box shipments rose 9% early in the pandemic as Americans stocked up on household paper, cleaning supplies and food, and they have remained elevated in the months since, according to



Keith Srakocic/AP photo

In this June 2019 photo, delivery vehicles depart the FedEx Ship Center in Cranberry Township, Pa. The rise in online shopping during the pandemic has inspired startups to try to reduce the packaging coming to consumers.

industry data.

“There are trade-offs to shopping online and in stores,” said Scott Matthews, a civil and environmental engineering professor at Carnegie Mellon University who has been studying the environmental effects of retail practices since the early 2000s.

“But packaging will always be a problem that needs to be addressed.”

Taking out the trash

Mr. Faust got the idea for Olive while he was taking out the trash one night.

“After 30 minutes of breaking down boxes and multiple trips down the driveway, it dawned on me that this is crazy,” said Mr. Faust, 41, who co-founded Jet.com and five years ago sold it to Walmart for \$3.3 billion. “Twenty-five years into online shopping, and this is what status quo delivery looks like.”

He came up with a blueprint for a company that would not only reduce the amount of waste being shipped to customers' homes but also streamline deliveries so that orders from multiple retailers are dropped off in a batch, instead of piecemeal. More than 100 apparel retailers — including Anthropologie, Finish Line, Ralph Lauren and Saks Fifth Avenue — have signed on for the service, which is backed by more than \$10 million in venture capital.

“The real power comes in the last mile to the consumer's doorstep, where so much of

the emissions in the post-purchase supply chain come from, largely because it's an average of one box per stop on the delivery route,” Mr. Faust said.

Shoppers buy items as they normally would, using the company's app or a Google Chrome plugin. When it's time to check out, Olive has the order routed to one of its two warehouses, in Southern California or northern New Jersey.

From there, workers un-pack individual orders, recycle packing materials and place items in a reusable bag that is delivered once a week.

The service's benefits, Mr. Faust says, are twofold: It ensures more packaging materials are recycled properly while eliminating multiple delivery trips throughout the week.

To return an item, the shopper places it back in the shipping tote for the U.S. Postal Service to pick up. The service is free for consumers; Olive makes money by taking a roughly 10% share of each retail order.

Mr. Faust says consumers are willing to wait a few extra days for their orders if it means dealing with less waste, though analysts say that could be a difficult proposition given that services such as Amazon Prime have conditioned shoppers to expect just about anything to arrive within a day or two.

To that end, Mr. Faust says he is focused on apparel orders, which tend to be

fragmented because consumers buy from a range of sites, all with their own delivery timetables and conventions.

“With apparel, there aren't preconceived notions of when should some things how up like there is when you shop on Amazon,” he said, adding that the company plans to eventually expand into other categories, such as cosmetics, and add more advanced tracking and delivery information.

The more efficient online shopping becomes, the better environmental option it becomes to in-store shopping, said Mr. Matthews of Carnegie Mellon.

Delivery trucks can make more concentrated deliveries instead of boomeranging around town, he said, resulting in lower greenhouse gas emissions. Plus, a delivery truck that makes dozens of stops an hour is more efficient than individual shoppers driving to several stores for a handful of items at a time, he said.

Retailers have also become more careful about packaging

and box size, which has helped curtail waste. Amazon, which accounts for nearly 40% of the country's online sales, said it has reduced packaging by 33% since 2015, eliminating more than 900,000 tons of packaging material, equivalent to 1.6 billion shipping boxes.

The Boox option

When the pandemic hit last year, high-end shoe company Charix moved all of its business online. Sales boomed six-fold — but so did returns and exchanges.

“We quickly realized e-commerce is very different from traditional retail,” said Suley Ozbey, who founded the Washington-based company in 2015. “We'd get shoes back in boxes that we couldn't use again, and it was piling up.”

He began looking for alternatives and found Boox, which offers brightly colored reusable plastic mailing boxes with a Velcro-like fastener and don't require packing tape. Mr. Ozbey pays about \$2 per Boox, versus about 75

cents for a cardboard box, but said the investment has been worthwhile. Each plastic container can be used up to a dozen times before it's recycled.

Boox, started six months ago by restaurateur-turned-entrepreneur Matthew Semmelhack, sells its reusable plastic mailing boxes to more than 30 specialty retailers, including Ren Skincare, Boyish Jeans and Curio Spice Co. It is nearing 50,000 shipments a month, with half of those boxes being returned by consumers.

“The folding cardboard box was invented 120 years ago and hasn't changed much since then,” said Mr. Semmelhack, 38, of Petaluma, Calif. “But the way we receive packages and products has changed wildly over the last 10 or 20 years.”

Each box can be reused about a dozen times, he said. Once returned, they're quarantined for a week, cleaned using organic soap and water, and redeployed for more deliveries.

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Retiring early? Tap 401(k), not Social Security

Personal finance

By Carla Fried
Rate.com

For all the advice that working longer is one of the best ways to shore up your retirement plan, it isn't always practical.

Even before the pandemic recession — which hit older workers hard — unemployment and illness caused many workers within a decade or so of 65 to stop working earlier than planned.

If you're considering retirement earlier than expected, you have the challenge of creating a steady income stream that can support you through what may be a 25- to 30-year retirement.

Quite often, people link when they retire with when they "should" start claiming Social Security. But if you retire in your early 60s and start Social Security, you are leaving serious money on the table.

Stretch out your retirement savings

New research gives important guidance on how to stretch your retirement dollars the furthest: In your 60s, lean on withdrawals from your 401(k) and don't start claiming Social Security. That is, use withdrawals from your 401(k) as a "bridge" during your 60s so you can afford to delay claiming Social Security until 70.

While you can start claiming your Social Security retirement benefit at 62, doing so locks in the minimum benefit you are entitled to. Waiting until 70 to start entitles you the maximum benefit. And the gap is massive: Start at 62 and your benefit will be around 76% less than if you wait until 70 to start.

There is no risk-free investment out there that hands you a guaranteed 76% return over eight years. Only Social Security delivers that in today's world of limited income options. Yet less than 10% of retirees wait until 70 to begin receiving their Social Security payout.



For all the advice that working longer is one of the best ways to shore up your retirement plan, it isn't always practical. Try these tips if you're retiring early.

Plan for longevity

Unless you have a pre-existing condition that suggests a shorter-than-average life expectancy, waiting for that higher payout will more than pay off assuming you live into your mid-80s. (For the record, if you make it to 65, the odds are that you will indeed live at least that long.)

That might seem beside the point if you're stopping work at 62, 64 or 66 and need money to live on. You might be thinking you simply don't have the luxury to wait to claim Social Security.

Understood.

But if you have money saved in a 401(k), the wonks at the Center for Retirement Studies at Boston College have crunched the numbers and found that many retirees will lock in a better long-term retirement

income stream if they use a "Social Security Bridge strategy."

Step 1: Don't start Social Security in your 60s. Wait until age 70.

Step 2: Make withdrawals from your 401(k) that are equal to what your Social Security benefit would be if claiming at your "full retirement age." Your FRA is somewhere between 66 and 67 for anyone born in 1943 or later. You can find yours at the Social Security website (ssa.gov).

401(k) vs. Social Security

The CRR researchers created a model using household survey data from 2016 that showed 65-year-old single men with 401(k) savings had a median account value of \$106,000 and were eligible

for an annual Social Security benefit around \$15,400. Women with 401(k) savings had a median account value of \$110,000 and were eligible for an annual Social Security payout of around \$14,500.

They then calculated how withdrawing money from the 401(k) instead of Social Security compared to buying an immediate-income annuity or a deferred income annuity.

For the record: Both of these types of annuities are solid ways to generate guaranteed retirement income. But as the researchers note, even when they may be a smart strategy, retirees have shown little appetite for handing over a big chunk of their savings to an insurance company. Your Social Security benefit is in effect an

annuity that you already own. The researchers set out to see how waiting for the optimal time to claim — age 70 — stacked up against the commercial annuities you could use to generate guaranteed retirement income.

The model factored in investment risk (for a diversified retirement portfolio), life expectancy and the probability of later-life spending "shocks" (e.g., health care expenses).

For both a single man and woman with median 401(k) wealth, drawing down a portion of their retirement savings as a "bridge" that allows them to delay claiming Social Security is the best way to go to generate optimal retirement income. The strategy is also smart for households with above-average 401(k) savings.

Full retirement age

If you register at the Social Security website you can get an estimate of your Social Security benefits if you were to claim at 62, at your full retirement age or at 70. Then you can decide if you want to withdraw your FRA amount (or less) from your 401(k) so you wait to claim Social Security as long as possible.

Not sure about all the moving pieces? This is where hiring a fiduciary financial planner to work through the numbers with you can be a great investment. Plenty of planners will take on the assignment and charge an hourly or project fee. No need to enter into a long-term ongoing relationship if that's not what you want.

A reader debate breaks out over the value of Locast streaming service

Sound advice

DON LINDICH

Q. I think you are giving the Locast local channel streaming service a bum rap. Though \$5 is required to prevent the interruptions every 15 minutes, it's the best \$5 I spend every month! Locast has a crystal-clear HD picture and an excellent navigation guide. You can watch on multiple devices, and the iPad and iPhone interface is great, too. Locast is perfect for cord cutters! You will pay much more than \$5 per month in cable fees.

— J.N., Minneapolis

A. When I first wrote about "free Locast," I received many emails complaining about the constant interruptions. When I followed up and mentioned the interruptions, I received emails like yours, praising the service.

I think Locast should set proper expectations and call it a \$5-per-month service instead of "free." I appreciate your comments and am happy to pass them along so everyone hears from both sides, satisfied and unsatisfied. Unfortunately, I can't access Locast in my ZIP code. locast.org

Polk Audio Legend L100 speakers are the Sound Advice 2020 Product of the Year: My annual award has always gone to the single product I tested that stood out the most, and that was definitely the Legend L100. Introduced at \$1,199 and now available for \$999, the L100 is the smallest and least expensive model in Polk's Legend line.

I have not heard the



polkaudio.com

The Polk Audio Legend L100 Speakers deliver rich, audio-ophile-level sound at a comparatively low price point.

bigger Legend models, but the L100 is the most accessible considering size and price. That makes them especially noteworthy because they give owners a taste of what the very best in home audio is capable of for under \$1,000.

Many would consider \$999 expensive for small stand-mounted speakers, but audiophiles consider that entry-level. Though the Legend L100 may not have an exotic nameplate, the sound quality often outperforms pricey exotic brands.

Sometimes I use car analogies to make things relatable for readers. The new mid-engined C8 Chevrolet Corvette has been called the "American Ferrari," though it does not have the ownership headaches and \$400,000 prices that come with exotic cars. It is also made by Chevrolet, a mass-market brand with dealerships everywhere and products priced from entry-level to luxury. With its unpretentious American nameplate, top-shelf performance and aspirational (though not unreasonable) price, the Legend L100 draws a lot of parallels.

The proof is in the listening. I set up a pair of L100s for

my friend L.K., and she literally gasped when the music first started playing. She said she had never heard something so beautiful before, saying it was like the orchestra was in her living room.

Reader K.L. thanked me for writing about them, praising the "breathtaking sound." Though small, the L100 speakers deliver solid bass with authority and control, outperforming many larger speakers (including towers). The richness, detail, purity and effortless way they separate and reproduce different parts of the music, and then present them together as cohesive whole, must be experienced to be appreciated.

The two pairs of handmade, high-end speakers I use as a reference sell for \$5,500 and \$6,500. Often when I review less expensive speakers, I am happy when the review ends so I can go back to my fancy gear. With the Legend L100 speakers, I never felt like I was missing anything in comparison. They have now joined the ensemble of top-shelf reference gear I use as a benchmark. polkaudio.com

Read columns and product reviews by Don Lindich at soundadvicenews.com.

The pandemic boosted Nestle's pet brands. But what about food and drinks for humans?

Consumer

By Corinne Gretler
Bloomberg

Nestle SA had an easier time selling food for pets than for people in 2020. To meet his promises for faster overall growth, Chief Executive Officer Mark Schneider needs to focus more on human appetites this year.

Sales of pet food surged 10% in 2020, the fastest in more than a decade, as consumers stuck at home adopted more cats and dogs. While that helped overall revenue accelerate, Mr. Schneider has yet to reach the mid-single-digit growth rates the company enjoyed five years ago.

The world's largest food company has struggled to get sales of chocolate to accelerate, and Nestle's bottled-water revenue has plunged, suffering from lockdowns and social-distancing measures. The company this week sold underperforming U.S. water brands such as Poland Spring for \$4.3 billion. Mr. Schneider said Nestle will focus more on premium products, which now make up almost a third of its total sales.

Mr. Schneider said sales growth will probably accelerate this year and could exceed 4%.

"Exceeding that bar in 2021 is not a slam dunk," Mr. Schneider said on a call with journalists. "This is something we're going to have to work hard for."

Pet food is outperforming after Nestle con-



Stefan Wermuth/Bloomberg

A reusable Purina pet food container stands on display inside the Nestle SA Institute of Packaging Sciences in Vevey, Switzerland.

sistently built up its market share over the past two decades, Mr. Schneider said. In most countries where statistics are available, Nestle is the biggest or second-biggest player, accounting for 20% to 30% of pet food sold.

Mr. Schneider said the business ticks all the boxes that Nestle wants to work on, such as premiumization, nutrition science and digital opportunities, but signaled not to expect big M&A.

"Expect solid organic performance, solid investments in capacity to deliver and also the occasional tuck-under acquisition here and there to advance our market position — that's our game plan," Mr. Schneider said on a video conference.

Another weak point Mr. Schneider needs to address is China, the company's second-largest

market, where revenue declined on weaker demand for infant formula.

One area Nestle had more success in is frozen convenience meals, as the pandemic spurred demand for DiGiorno pizzas and Hot Pockets sandwiches, brands that had been underperforming in the past.

After the sale of U.S. and Canada bottled water brands to private equity firm One Rock Capital Partners, Nestle plans to focus on faster-growing high-end brands like Perrier and San Pellegrino.

This year, Nestle will put more emphasis on acquisitions in general, though it would be wrong to declare an end to potential divestments, Schneider said.

"We have a pipeline, and we're interested in balancing the buying and selling in a much better way," the CEO said.

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Seeking experienced Produce Manager. Holiday Park Shop 'n Save Competitive Wage & Full Benefit Package. Resumes to Sean Hartley Holiday Park Shop 'n Save 2362 Golden Mile HWY Plum PA 15239

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Electrician
Slippery Rock University invites resumes for an electrician. Salary: \$35,364/yr. plus benefits. For complete position description and application procedures please apply online at <https://careers.sru.edu/>

Found

Ring Found in the parking lot of Miracle Mile Shopping Center Jan. 22, 2021. It is a very unique setting which the owner can describe. 412-398-7868

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Bids and Proposals

Join Zoom Meeting
Meeting ID: 939 9398 4507
Passcode: 630169
+1 301 715 8592 US (Washington D.C.)
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Bids and Proposals

The Solicitation from the Business Opportunities page of www.HACP.org. Questions or inquires should be directed to: Mr. Kim Detrick Housing Authority of the City of Pittsburgh Procurement Department 100 Ross Street Pittsburgh, PA 15219 412-643-2832
A pre-submission meeting will be held via Zoom meeting; on February 26, 2021 9:00 A.M. Please see meeting information below.

Bids and Proposals

time of 9:00 AM on March 16, 2021 in the lobby of 100 Ross St. Pittsburgh, PA 15219. Bids may be uploaded to the Authority's online submission site, the link is accessible via the HACP website and within the IFB. Sealed bids may still be mailed via USPS at which time they will be Time and Date Stamped at 100 Ross Street 2nd Floor, Suite 200, Pittsburgh, PA 15219. Parties or individuals interested in responding may download a copy of the Solicitation from the Business Opportunities page of www.HACP.org. Questions or inquires should be directed to: Mr. Kim Detrick Housing Authority of the City of Pittsburgh Procurement Department 100 Ross Street Pittsburgh, PA 15219 412-643-2832
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The Union Railroad Company, a wholly owned subsidiary of United States Steel Corporation is seeking railroad track material for procurement. The project will be funded under the PennDOT Rail Transportation Assistance Program (RTAP). Unless otherwise specified all track, material shall conform to the most current AREMA specifications, as applicable. The material list includes: (1) turnout, (48) track panels, OTM and (1,000 ton) #3 AASHTO ballast. Vendors must be in good standing with the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. All Bids must be sealed and sent certified mail to the Union Railroad 708 Duquesne Blvd. Duquesne, PA 15110. The acceptance of bids will begin March 4, 2021 and close March 18 2021. All received bid/quotes will be opened and read out loud at the Holiday Inn (658 E Waterfront Dr, Munhall, PA 15120), Tuesday March 23, 2021 at 09:30. Contact Brandon Snyder at (412) 235-1584 or Bsnyder@uss.com for any questions.

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Associate Product Manager sought by Astrata, Inc. in Pittsburgh, PA and unanticipated locations; telecommuting permissible. Master's or equiv., plus 3 years exp. Send resume to: Rebecca Jacobson, Astrata, Inc., 5822 US Steel Tower, 600 Grant Street, Pittsburgh, PA 15219 or email: jacobsonr@astrata.co

Accounting / Finance

Senior Accountant - Tax and Assurance
Brunner, Blackstone & Associates, PC seeks a Senior Accountant - Tax and Assurance in Cranberry Township, PA, responsible for preparing and reviewing complex federal and state tax returns of individuals and businesses which includes preparing sales, payroll, personal property and other tax returns as well as formal and informal financial statements. Email resumes to: rpadgett@bbacpas.com

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Gokul, Inc. of WV d/b/a Comfort Inn & Suites: Maintenance Supervisor in Triadelphia, WV. Review work in: carpentry, painting, electrical, plumbing, HVAC, may assist as needed, emergency on-call. 2 yrs exp. shift mgr, supervisor. Valid license, travel in PA, WV. Background check & drug test. To: 675 Ford Henry Rd., Triadelphia, WV 26059.

Engineering / Technical

ENGINEERING
Senior Systems Studies Engineer - Lead & perform power systems engineering studies for Transmission & Distribution applications. Reqs: MS+3 yrs exp. Jobsite: Warrendale, PA. Mail resume to: MEPEI, Attn: T.Lienemann/Ref: S5SE, 530 Keystone Drive, Warrendale, PA 15086.

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Supervisory U. S. Probation Officer
Northern District of West Virginia
U.S. Probation is seeking a Supervisory U.S. Probation Officer for the Clarksburg, West Virginia office. Salary is dependent on qualifications and experience. For full posting, required qualifications and how to apply, please visit www.wvnp.uscourts.gov. The United States Probation Office is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

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KITCHEN & BATH INSTALLER
Shadyside Mgt Co needs experienced person w/ drivers license & transportation to install kitchens & baths and do minor carpentry repairs in area apts. FT career position w/ salary & signing bonus matched to expertise, with quality but affordable employee benefits. Compensation range: \$32,000 - \$40,000. Signing bonus range: \$1,500 - \$3,000. MOZART - 412-682-7003

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JANITORIAL / MAINTENANCE
Mgt. co needs person with drivers license to work unsupervised cleaning bldgs around Shadyside. No exp nec. Duties also include janitorial work, cleaning vacant apartments, light maintenance, general labor, and snow removal. \$12.00+/hr. full time. MOZART - 412-682-7003

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HOUSING AUTHORITY OF THE CITY OF PITTSBURGH INVITATION FOR BIDS (IFB) FOR ROLL-OFF CONTAINERS AUTHORITY WIDE IFB#300-05-21
The Housing Authority of the City of Pittsburgh (HACP) hereby requests bids from qualified Firms or Individuals capable of providing the following service(s):
Roll-Off Containers Authority Wide IFB#300-05-21
The documents will be

JANITORIAL / MAINTENANCE
Mgt. co needs person with drivers license to work unsupervised cleaning bldgs around Shadyside. No exp nec. Duties also include janitorial work, cleaning vacant apartments, light maintenance, general labor, and snow removal. \$12.00+/hr. full time. MOZART - 412-682-7003

ENGINEERING / Technical

SOFTWARE ENGINEER - FULL STACK
Management Science Associates has a Pittsburgh-based position to work with all software development layers. Analyze business systems requirements and design appropriate technical solutions. Send resumes to K. Schlegel at 400 MSA Drive, Tarentum, PA 15084.

Estate Notices

ESTATE NOTICES
Letters have been granted on the estate of each of the following decedents to the personal representative named who requests all persons having claims against the estate of the decedent to make known the same in writing to him or his attorney, and all persons indebted to the decedent to make payment to him without delay:

Bids and Proposals

HACP conducts business in accordance with all federal, state, and local civil rights laws, including but not limited to Title VII, the Fair Housing Act, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, the Americans with Disabilities Act, etc. and does not discriminate against any individuals protected by these statutes.

Bids and Proposals

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Roll-Off Containers Authority Wide IFB#300-05-21
The documents will be

Driving & Transportation

Full Time and Part CDL Drivers Class A or B
Experience Flatbeds or Dump Trucks. Local Driving. Daylight. \$20+/Hour for qualified Drivers. Benefits 412-297-2820 or email

Bids and Proposals

available no later than February 22, 2021 and signed, sealed bids will be accepted until 10:00 A.M. on March 16, 2021 The Housing Authority of the City of Pittsburgh will only be accepting physical bids dropped off in person from 8:00 AM until the closing time of 10:00 AM on March 16, 2021 in the lobby of 100 Ross St. Pittsburgh, PA 15219. Bids may be uploaded to the Authority's online submission site, the link is accessible via the HACP website and within the IFB. Sealed bids may still be mailed via USPS at which time they will be Time and Date Stamped at 100 Ross Street 2nd Floor, Suite 200 Pittsburgh, PA 15219. Parties or individuals interested in responding may download a copy of the Solicitation from the Business Opportunities page of www.HACP.org. Questions or inquires should be directed to: Mr. Kim Detrick Housing Authority of the City of Pittsburgh Procurement Department 100 Ross Street 2nd Floor, Suite 200 Pittsburgh, PA 15219 412-643-2832 A pre-submission meeting will be held via Zoom meeting on March 2, 2021 10:00 A.M. Please see meeting information below: Join Zoom Meeting Meeting ID: 997 3927 0846 Passcode: 479953 +1 301 715 8592 US (Washington D.C) The Housing Authority of the City of Pittsburgh strongly encourages certified minority business enterprises and women business enterprises to respond to this solicitation. HACP's has revised their website. As part of those revisions, vendors must now register and log-in, in order to view and download IFB/RFPs documentation. Caster D. Binion, Executive Director Housing Authority of the City of Pittsburgh HACP conducts business in accordance with all federal, state, and local civil rights laws, including but not limited to Title VII, the Fair Housing Act, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, the Americans with Disabilities Act, etc. and does not discriminate against any individuals protected by these statutes.

Auctions

HOUSING AUTHORITY OF THE CITY OF PITTSBURGH REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL (RFP) FOR TECHNICAL ACCOUNTING SERVICES RFP #150-13-21 The Housing Authority of the City of Pittsburgh (HACP) hereby request proposals from qualified Firms or individuals capable of providing the following services: Technical Accounting Services The documents will be available no later than February 22, 2021 and signed, sealed proposals will be accepted until 9:00 A.M. on March 16, 2021. The Housing Authority of the City of Pittsburgh will only be accepting physical proposals dropped off in person from 8:00 AM until the closing time of 9:00 AM on March 16, 2021 in the lobby of 100 Ross St. Pittsburgh, PA 15219. Proposals may be uploaded to the Authority's online submission site, the link is accessible via the HACP

Bids and Proposals

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Auctions

LEGAL NOTICE BALDWIN-WHITEHALL SCHOOL DISTRICT BID ADVERTISEMENT On Thursday, February 25, 2021, the Baldwin-Whitehall School District will receive bids for Crawlspace Water Remediation in the McAnulty Elementary School, 5151 McAnulty Road, Pittsburgh, PA 15236. Bids will be received up to 11:00 A.M., to the attention of Mark Cherpak, Business Manager, 4900 Curry Road, Pittsburgh, PA 15236. It is the intent of the Owner to enter into a single Contract for the work. Bids shall conform with Contract Documents prepared by HHSDR Architects/Engineers, 40 Sherango Ave., Sharon, PA, 16146, and 201 Century Building, 130 Seventh St., Pittsburgh, PA, 15222. Due to current coronavirus restrictions, Bidders who contact the Sharon office of HHSDR (724-981-8820) will receive a public link to the Contract Documents. No hard copies will be distributed from HHSDR and no deposit is required. Bids shall include a Bid Security Bond or Certified Check, payable to Baldwin-Whitehall School District, in an amount of ten percent (10%) of the bid, in accordance with Instructions to Bidders, as included in the Contract Documents.

Bids and Proposals

OFFICIAL ADVERTISEMENT THE BOARD OF PUBLIC EDUCATION of the SCHOOL DISTRICT OF PITTSBURGH ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS Sealed proposals shall be deposited at the Administration Building, Bellefield Entrance Lobby, 341 South Bellefield Avenue, Pittsburgh, Pa., 15213, on March 16, 2021, until 2:00 P.M., local prevailing time for: Service & Maintenance Contracts at Various Schools, Facilities, Facilities & Properties: - Gas and Oil Burners, Boilers and Furnaces Inspection, Service, and Repairs (REBID) Pgh. Crescent ECC Various Asphalt and Concrete Repairs General Prime Project Manual and Drawings will be available for purchase on Monday, February 22, 2021 at Modern Reproductions (412-488-7700), 127 McKean Street, Pittsburgh, Pa., 15219 between 9:00 A.M. and 4:00 P.M. The cost of the Project Manual Documents is non-refundable. Project details and dates are described in each project manual.

PORT AUTHORITY OF ALLEGHENY COUNTY

Electronic Proposals will be received online at the Port Authority of Allegheny County's Ebusiness website (http://ebusiness.portauthority.org). Proposals/bid submittals will be due 11:00 a.m. on March 16, 2021 and will be read at 11:15 a.m., the same day, at Port Authority's Heinz location (Please contact the respective Contract Specialist for Tele-Conference dial-in information for the Bid Opening), for the following: Electronic Proposal - Ebusiness website (http://ebusiness.portauthority.org) 1. B210205A Wheel Flange Lubricator Sticks 2. B210206A Bus Batteries - Wet Type 3. B210207 Wayside Profiling & Measurement System 4. B210208A Herbicide Spraying for Vegetation Control 5. B210209A Air Oil Coolant Transmission & Fuel Filters Paper Proposal - Documents are available for the following item at Port Authority's Main Offices 345 Sixth Avenue, Third Floor, Pittsburgh Pennsylvania 15222-2527 1. B20097544R - Off-Site Record Storage & Service No bidder may withdraw a submitted Proposal for a period of 75 days after the scheduled time for opening of the sealed bids. A Pre-Bid Conference will be held via tele-conference on each of the above items at 10:00 a.m. on March 2, 2021. Please contact the respective Contract Specialist for Tele-Conference dial-in information. Attendance at this meeting is not mandatory, but is strongly encouraged. Questions regarding any of the above bids will not be entertained by the Port Authority within five (5) business days of the scheduled bid opening. These contracts may be subject to a financial assistance contract between Port Authority of Allegheny County and the United States Department of Transportation. The Contractor will be required to comply with all applicable Equal Employment Opportunity laws and regulations.

Machinery & Tools

ABSOLUTE PUBLIC ONLINE ONLY AUCTION PITTSBURGH, PENNSYLVANIA THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 25, 2021 564 Route 18, Burgettstown, PA - 9:00 A.M. 225+ Conventional Tractors, Aluminum Reefers & Vans, Tankers & Platform Trailers Taylor & Martin, Inc. Se Habla Español C.J. Costas 402-889-3222 PA Auctioneer #A-AV00249L, AU006058, AU006011, AU006203 Call for more information: 800-654-8280 Victor Jimenez 402-718-9293 Armando Valencia 402-620-5326 www.taylorandmartin.com

Machinery & Tools

EMPLOYMENT EMPLOYMENT EMPLOYMENT EMPLOYMENT

Bids and Proposals

Contractor is responsible for expenses related to acquiring a performance bond and insurance where applicable. All items are to be FOB delivered unless otherwise specified. Costs for delivery, bond, and insurance shall be included in bidder's proposal pricing. Port Authority of Allegheny County hereby notifies all bidders that it will affirmatively insure that in regard to any contract entered into pursuant to this advertisement, disadvantaged business enterprise will be afforded full opportunity to submit bids in response to this invitation and will not be discriminated against on the grounds of race, color, or national origin in consideration for an award. The Board of Port Authority reserves the right to reject any or all bids.

SHALER AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT NOTICE TO BIDDERS

Sealed bids will be received by the Shaler Area School District at the District's offices located at 1800 Mt. Royal Blvd, Glenshaw, PA 15116, Attn: Mitch Stivason, March 8, 2021 until Noon SHARP (prevailing time) at which time bids will be opened and publicly read for the following: UNINTERRUPTIBLE POWER SUPPLY UNITS AND RELATED MAINTENANCE The bid and any/all appendices are available by emailing UPSRFP@shalerarea.org and online at https://tinyurl.com/upsrpf The Shaler Area School Board reserves the right to reject any or all bids, waive any informality in any bid, to eliminate or reduce quantities, and exercise its judgment as to the comparative merit of the products and services offered. Sherri L. Ludwig, Board Secretary Shaler Area School District

The Pittsburgh Water and Sewer Authority

Advertisement Invitation for Bids (IFB) MARYLAND AVENUE GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECT PWSA Project No. 2017-424-101-0 Mandatory Pre-Bid Meeting Date: March 4, 2021 at 11:00 a.m., via Microsoft Teams. Vendor Questions Due Date: March 11, 2021 by 4:00 p.m. Bid Due Date: March 18, 2021 at 2:00 p.m. PWSA is requesting bids for the installation of green infrastructure (GI) stormwater storage and permeable pavers in two project areas on Howe Street and two project areas on Kentucky Avenue in the Shady-side neighborhood. This includes excavation work, protecting existing utilities, installation of underdrain piping, installation of BMP storage layers (#57 aggregate, pipe storage, impermeable liner), installation of permeable pavers within the parking lane, installation of new catch basins and manholes, sidewalk restoration, replacement of trees, and roadway milling and paving. The work will include associated connections into the existing combined sewer system of the Pittsburgh Water and Sewer Authority (PWSA). Further information regarding this IFB can be viewed and downloaded at: https://pgh2o.bonfirehub.com/opportunities/39046

Machinery & Tools

EMPLOYMENT EMPLOYMENT EMPLOYMENT EMPLOYMENT

Bids and Proposals

Advertisement Invitation for Bids (IFB) 2021 Small Diameter Water Main Replacement - Contract C PWSA Project No. Project # 2020-325-106-2 Mandatory Pre-Bid Meeting Date: February 25, 2021 at 11:00 a.m. via Microsoft Teams Vendor Questions Due Date: March 4, 2021 by 4:00 p.m. Bid Due Date: March 11, 2021 at 2:00 p.m. PWSA is requesting bids for the replacement and upsizing of the Pittsburgh Water and Sewer Authority (PWSA) public water system including water mains, valves, service connections, and hydrants as required or directed. In addition to the water main work, various existing catch basins located adjacent to the work areas will be replaced, buried sewer manholes will be raised to grade, and new sewer manholes will be installed. Further information regarding this IFB can be viewed and downloaded at: https://pgh2o.bonfirehub.com/opportunities/39169

Legal Notices

NOTICE OF HEARING ON PETITION TO INVOLUNTARILY TERMINATE PARENTAL RIGHTS

In Re: Daytona Mosley a/k/a Daytona Mosley, a minor, No. CP-02-AP-181-2020, in the Orphans' Court Division of the Court of Common Pleas of Allegheny County, Pennsylvania. To: Sabrina Ann Mosley a/k/a Sabrina A. Zellers a/k/a Sabrina Ann Mosley-Zellers a/k/a Shenita Chanel Howard Zellers a/k/a Elizabeth Watts a/k/a Sabrina Ann Mosely-Zellers a/k/a Shenita Howard a/k/a Sabrina Ann Zellers a/k/a Sabrina M. Zellers a/k/a Sabrina Mosley a/k/a Sabrina Mosley-Zellers a/k/a Sabrina Zellers a/k/a Susan Frances Sidney a/k/a Susan Sidney, Calvin Alexander Armstrong a/k/a Calvin A. Armstrong, Jr. a/k/a Calvin A. Armstrong a/k/a Calvin Armstrong, Jerome Reeves a/k/a Jerome Brown a/k/a James Reeves a/k/a Jerome K. Reeves a/k/a Jerome Kirk Reeves, Devon Smith a/k/a Devin Ian Smith a/k/a Devin I. Smith, Jerry Moore, and The Unknown Father, parents of Daytona Mosley a/k/a Daytona Mosley, a minor born on May 9, 2003, in Allegheny County, Pennsylvania. A Petition has been filed asking the court to put an end to all rights you have to your child, Daytona Mosley a/k/a Daytona Mosley. The court has set a hearing to consider ending your rights to your child. That hearing will be held on Wednesday, March 3, 2021, at 9:30 a.m., prevailing time, before the Honorable David L. Spurgeon. This hearing will not take place in the courthouse but will be proceeding via telephone or video conferencing. In order for you to virtually participate in this hearing, it is important that you contact the assigned caseworker, Lateka Moorefield, at (412) 473-2300, or your legal counsel/attorney to obtain information for how to participate by telephone or video conference. The aforementioned caseworker and/or your attorney may be able to provide you with a phone number or link to the virtual hearing. You are warned that even if you fail to participate in the scheduled hearing, the hearing will go on without you and your rights to your child may be ended by the court without your being present. You have a right to be represented at the hearing by a lawyer. You should contact your lawyer at once. If you do not have a lawyer or cannot afford one, go to or telephone the office set forth below to find out where you can get legal help. This is also to inform you of an important option that may be available to you under Pennsylvania law. Act 101 of 2010 allows for an enforceable voluntary agreement for continuing contact or communication following an adoption between an adoptive parent, a child, a birth parent, and/or a birth relative of the child, if all parties agree and the voluntary agreement is approved by the court. If you are interested in learning more about this option for a voluntary agreement, contact your attorney or: Lawyer Referral Service The Allegheny County Bar Association Koppers Building, 4th Floor 436 Seventh Avenue Pittsburgh, PA 15219 Telephone: (412) 261-5555 Andrew F. Szeft, County Solicitor Paula J. Benucci, Attorney at Law Children, Youth and Families 445 Ft. Pitt Boulevard, Pittsburgh, PA 15219 (412) 350-4947; Paula.Benucci@AlleghenyCounty.US Attorneys for Petitioner

Legal Notices

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In Re: Ezeziel Calvon Armstrong a/k/a Ezekiel Armstrong a/k/a Ezekiel Armstrong, a minor, No. CP-02-AP-183-2020, in the Orphans' Court Division of the Court of Common Pleas of Allegheny County, Pennsylvania. To: Sabrina Ann Mosley a/k/a Sabrina A. Zellers a/k/a Sabrina Ann Mosley-Zellers a/k/a Shenita Chanel Howard Zellers a/k/a Elizabeth Watts a/k/a Sabrina Ann Mosely-Zellers a/k/a Shenita Howard a/k/a Sabrina Ann Zellers a/k/a Sabrina M. Zellers a/k/a Sabrina Mosley a/k/a Sabrina Mosley-Zellers a/k/a Sabrina Zellers a/k/a Susan Frances Sidney a/k/a Susan Sidney and Calvin Alexander Armstrong a/k/a Calvin A. Armstrong, Jr. a/k/a Calvin A. Armstrong, parents of Ezekiel Calvon Armstrong a/k/a Ezekiel Armstrong a/k/a Ezekiel Armstrong, a minor born on January 23, 2007, in Pittsburgh, Allegheny County, Pennsylvania. A Petition has been filed asking the court to put an end to all rights you have to your child, Ezekiel Calvon Armstrong a/k/a Ezekiel Armstrong. The court has set a hearing to consider ending your rights to your child. That hearing will be held on Wednesday, March 3, 2021, at 9:30 a.m., prevailing time, before the Honorable David L. Spurgeon. This hearing will not take place in the courthouse but will be proceeding via telephone or video conferencing. In order for you to virtually participate in this hearing, it is important that you contact the assigned caseworker, Lateka Moorefield, at (412) 473-2300, or your legal counsel/attorney to obtain information for how to participate by telephone or video conference. The aforementioned caseworker and/or your attorney may be able to provide you with a phone number or link to the virtual hearing. You are warned that even if you fail to participate in the scheduled hearing, the hearing will go on without you and your rights to your child may be ended by the court without your being present. You have a right to be represented at the hearing by a lawyer. You should contact your lawyer at once. If you do not have a lawyer or cannot afford one, go to or telephone the office set forth below to find out where you can get legal help. This is also to inform you of an important option that may be available to you under Pennsylvania law. Act 101 of 2010 allows for an enforceable voluntary agreement for continuing contact or communication following an adoption between an adoptive parent, a child, a birth parent, and/or a birth relative of the child, if all parties agree and the voluntary agreement is approved by the court. If you are interested in learning more about this option for a voluntary agreement, contact your attorney or: Lawyer Referral Service The Allegheny County Bar Association Koppers Building, 4th Floor 436 Seventh Avenue Pittsburgh, PA 15219 Telephone: (412) 261-5555 Andrew F. Szeft, County Solicitor Paula J. Benucci, Attorney at Law Children, Youth and Families 445 Ft. Pitt Boulevard, Pittsburgh, PA 15219 (412) 350-4947; Paula.Benucci@AlleghenyCounty.US Attorneys for Petitioner

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Legal Notices

NOTICE OF HEARING ON PETITION TO INVOLUNTARILY TERMINATE PARENTAL RIGHTS

In Re: Calmar Calvin Mosley-Armstrong a/k/a Calmar Armstrong a/k/a Calmar Mosley a/k/a Calmar Mosley-Armstrong, a minor, No. CP-02-AP-182-2020, in the Orphans' Court Division of the Court of Common Pleas of Allegheny County, Pennsylvania. To: Sabrina Ann Mosley a/k/a Sabrina A. Zellers a/k/a Sabrina Ann Mosley-Zellers a/k/a Shenita Chanel Howard Zellers a/k/a Elizabeth Watts a/k/a Sabrina Ann Mosely-Zellers a/k/a Shenita Howard a/k/a Sabrina Ann Zellers a/k/a Sabrina M. Zellers a/k/a Sabrina Mosley a/k/a Sabrina Mosley-Zellers a/k/a Sabrina Zellers a/k/a Susan Frances Sidney a/k/a Susan Sidney, Jerome Reeves a/k/a Jerome Brown a/k/a James Reeves a/k/a Jerome K. Reeves a/k/a Jerome Kirk Reeves, Devon Smith a/k/a Devin Ian Smith a/k/a Devin I. Smith, Jerry Moore, and The Unknown Father, parents of Calmar Calvin Mosley-Armstrong a/k/a Calmar Armstrong a/k/a Calmar Mosley a/k/a Calmar Mosley-Armstrong, a minor born on May 9, 2003, in Allegheny County, Pennsylvania. A Petition has been filed asking the court to put an end to all rights you have to your child, Calmar Calvin Mosley-Armstrong a/k/a Calmar Armstrong a/k/a Calmar Mosley a/k/a Calmar Mosley-Armstrong. The court has set a hearing to consider ending your rights to your child. That hearing will be held on Wednesday, March 3, 2021, at 9:30 a.m., prevailing time, before the Honorable David L. Spurgeon. This hearing will not take place in the courthouse but will be proceeding via telephone or video conferencing. In order for you to virtually participate in this hearing, it is important that you contact the assigned caseworker, Lateka Moorefield, at (412) 473-2300, or your legal counsel/attorney to obtain information for how to participate by telephone or video conference. The aforementioned caseworker and/or your attorney may be able to provide you with a phone number or link to the virtual hearing. You are warned that even if you fail to participate in the scheduled hearing, the hearing will go on without you and your rights to your child may be ended by the court without your being present. You have a right to be represented at the hearing by a lawyer. You should contact your lawyer at once. If you do not have a lawyer or cannot afford one, go to or telephone the office set forth below to find out where you can get legal help. This is also to inform you of an important option that may be available to you under Pennsylvania law. Act 101 of 2010 allows for an enforceable voluntary agreement for continuing contact or communication following an adoption between an adoptive parent, a child, a birth parent, and/or a birth relative of the child, if all parties agree and the voluntary agreement is approved by the court. If you are interested in learning more about this option for a voluntary agreement, contact your attorney or: Lawyer Referral Service The Allegheny County Bar Association Koppers Building, 4th Floor 436 Seventh Avenue Pittsburgh, PA 15219 Telephone: (412) 261-5555 Andrew F. Szeft, County Solicitor Paula J. Benucci, Attorney at Law Children, Youth and Families 445 Ft. Pitt Boulevard, Pittsburgh, PA 15219 (412) 350-4947; Paula.Benucci@AlleghenyCounty.US Attorneys for Petitioner

Legal Notices

NOTICE OF HEARING ON PETITION TO INVOLUNTARILY TERMINATE PARENTAL RIGHTS

In Re: Anoja Chanel Howard a/k/a Anoja Howard a/k/a Baby Girl Zellers, a minor, No. CP-02-AP-185-2020, in the Orphans' Court Division of the Court of Common Pleas of Allegheny County, Pennsylvania. To: Sabrina Ann Mosley a/k/a Sabrina A. Zellers a/k/a Sabrina Ann Mosley-Zellers a/k/a Shenita Chanel Howard Zellers a/k/a Elizabeth Watts a/k/a Sabrina Ann Mosely-Zellers a/k/a Shenita Howard a/k/a Sabrina Ann Zellers a/k/a Sabrina M. Zellers a/k/a Sabrina Mosley a/k/a Sabrina Mosley-Zellers a/k/a Sabrina Zellers a/k/a Susan Frances Sidney a/k/a Susan Sidney, Robert Castaphney a/k/a Robert Anthony Castaphney a/k/a Robert A. Castaphney a/k/a Robert A. Castaphney a/k/a Robert A. Castaphney a/k/a X Antee a/k/a Anthony Castaphney a/k/a Robert Anthony Castaphney a/k/a Ante Castaphney a/k/a Robert Anthony Castaphney a/k/a Robert Anthony Castaphney, parents of Anoja Chanel Howard a/k/a Anoja Howard

Legal Notices

NOTICE OF HEARING ON PETITION TO INVOLUNTARILY TERMINATE PARENTAL RIGHTS

In Re: Eathan Daron Mosley-Armstrong a/k/a Ethan Mosley a/k/a Ethan Mosley-Armstrong a/k/a Ethan Mosely-Armstrong, a minor, No. CP-02-AP-184-2020, in the Orphans' Court Division of the Court of Common Pleas of Allegheny County, Pennsylvania. To: Sabrina Ann Mosley a/k/a Sabrina A. Zellers a/k/a Sabrina Ann Mosley-Zellers a/k/a Shenita Chanel Howard Zellers a/k/a Elizabeth Watts a/k/a Sabrina Ann Mosely-Zellers a/k/a Shenita Howard a/k/a Sabrina Ann Zellers a/k/a Sabrina M. Zellers a/k/a Sabrina Mosley a/k/a Sabrina Mosley-Zellers a/k/a Sabrina Zellers a/k/a Susan Frances Sidney a/k/a Susan Sidney and Calvin Alexander Armstrong a/k/a Calvin A. Armstrong, Jr. a/k/a Calvin A. Armstrong, parents of Eathan Daron Mosley-Armstrong a/k/a Ethan Mosley-Armstrong a/k/a Ethan Mosely-Armstrong a/k/a Ethan Mosley-Armstrong, a minor born on January 6, 2008, in Pittsburgh, Allegheny County, Pennsylvania. A Petition has been filed asking the court to put an end to all rights you have to your child, Eathan Daron Mosley-Armstrong a/k/a Ethan Mosley-Armstrong a/k/a Ethan Mosely-Armstrong a/k/a Ethan Mosley-Armstrong. The court has set a hearing to consider ending your rights to your child. That hearing will be held on Wednesday, March 3, 2021, at 9:30 a.m., prevailing time, before the Honorable David L. Spurgeon. This hearing will not take place in the courthouse but will be proceeding via telephone or video conferencing. In order for you to virtually participate in this hearing, it is important that you contact the assigned caseworker, Lateka Moorefield, at (412) 473-2300, or your legal counsel/attorney to obtain information for how to participate by telephone or video conference. The aforementioned caseworker and/or your attorney may be able to provide you with a phone number or link to the virtual hearing. You are warned that even if you fail to participate in the scheduled hearing, the hearing will go on without you and your rights to your child may be ended by the court without your being present. You have a right to be represented at the hearing by a lawyer. You should contact your lawyer at once. If you do not have a lawyer or cannot afford one, go to or telephone the office set forth below to find out where you can get legal help. This is also to inform you of an important option that may be available to you under Pennsylvania law. Act 101 of 2010 allows for an enforceable voluntary agreement for continuing contact or communication following an adoption between an adoptive parent, a child, a birth parent, and/or a birth relative of the child, if all parties agree and the voluntary agreement is approved by the court. If you are interested in learning more about this option for a voluntary agreement, contact your attorney or: Lawyer Referral Service The Allegheny County Bar Association Koppers Building, 4th Floor 436 Seventh Avenue Pittsburgh, PA 15219 Telephone: (412) 261-5555 Andrew F. Szeft, County Solicitor Paula J. Benucci, Attorney at Law Children, Youth and Families 445 Ft. Pitt Boulevard, Pittsburgh, PA 15219 (412) 350-4947; Paula.Benucci@AlleghenyCounty.US Attorneys for Petitioner

Legal Notices

NOTICE OF HEARING ON PETITION TO INVOLUNTARILY TERMINATE PARENTAL RIGHTS

In Re: Cherise Serenity Munger a/k/a Cherise Munger, a minor, No. CP-02-AP-152-2020, in the Orphans' Court Division of the Court of Common Pleas of Allegheny County, Pennsylvania. To: Maurita Corinne Munger a/k/a Maurita Munger, Marcus Haskins a/k/a Marcus Lee Cannon a/k/a Marcus Lee Haskins a/k/a Marcus Lee Cannon-Haskins a/k/a Marcus Cannon a/k/a Marcus Cannon Lee Haskins a/k/a Marcus Lee Cannon a/k/a Marcus Lee Cannon/Haskins, and The Unknown Father, parents of Cherise Serenity Munger a/k/a Cherise Munger, a minor born on May 4, 2019, in Pittsburgh, Allegheny County, Pennsylvania. A Petition has been filed asking the court to put an end to all rights you have to your child, Cherise Serenity Munger a/k/a Cherise Munger. The court has set a hearing to consider ending your rights to your child. That hearing will be on Friday, March 12, 2021, at 1:30 p.m., prevailing time, before the Honorable Eleanor L. Bush. This hearing will not take place in the courthouse but will be proceeding via telephone or video conferencing. In order for you to virtually participate in this hearing, it is important that you contact the assigned caseworker, Rick Ogden, at (412) 473-2300, or your legal counsel/attorney to obtain information for how to participate by telephone or video conference. The aforementioned caseworker and/or your attorney may be able to provide you with a phone number or link to the virtual hearing. You are warned that even if you fail to participate in the scheduled hearing, the hearing will go on without you and your rights to your child may be ended by the court without your being present. You have a right to be represented at the hearing by a lawyer. You should contact your lawyer at once. If you do not have a lawyer or cannot afford one, go to or telephone the office set forth below to find out where you can get legal help. This is also to inform you of an important option that may be available to you under Pennsylvania law. Act 101 of 2010 allows for an enforceable voluntary agreement for continuing contact or communication following an adoption between an adoptive parent, a child, a birth parent, and/or a birth relative of the child, if all parties agree and the voluntary agreement is approved by the court. If you are interested in learning more about this option for a voluntary agreement, contact your attorney or: Lawyer Referral Service The Allegheny County Bar Association Koppers Building, 4th Floor 436 Seventh Avenue Pittsburgh, PA 15219 Telephone: (412) 261-5555 Andrew F. Szeft, County Solicitor Paula J. Benucci, Attorney at Law Children, Youth and Families 445 Ft. Pitt Boulevard, Pittsburgh, PA 15219 (412) 350-4947; Paula.Benucci@AlleghenyCounty.US Attorneys for Petitioner

Legal Notices

NOTICE OF HEARING ON PETITION TO INVOLUNTARILY TERMINATE PARENTAL RIGHTS

In Re: Anoja Chanel Howard a/k/a Anoja Howard a/k/a Baby Girl Zellers, a minor, No. CP-02-AP-185-2020, in the Orphans' Court Division of the Court of Common Pleas of Allegheny County, Pennsylvania. To: Sabrina Ann Mosley a/k/a Sabrina A. Zellers a/k/a Sabrina Ann Mosley-Zellers a/k/a Shenita Chanel Howard Zellers a/k/a Elizabeth Watts a/k/a Sabrina Ann Mosely-Zellers a/k/a Shenita Howard a/k/a Sabrina Ann Zellers a/k/a Sabrina M. Zellers a/k/a Sabrina Mosley a/k/a Sabrina Mosley-Zellers a/k/a Sabrina Zellers a/k/a Susan Frances Sidney a/k/a Susan Sidney, Robert Anthony Castaphney a/k/a Robert Anthony Castaphney a/k/a Robert A. Castaphney a/k/a Robert A. Castaphney a/k/a Robert A. Castaphney a/k/a X Antee a/k/a Anthony Castaphney a/k/a Robert Anthony Castaphney a/k/a Ante Castaphney a/k/a Robert Anthony Castaphney, parents of Anoja Chanel Howard a/k/a Anoja Howard

Legal Notices

Smith a/k/a Devin Ian Smith a/k/a Devin I. Smith, Jerry Moore, and The Unknown Father, parents of Calmar Calvin Mosley-Armstrong a/k/a Calmar Armstrong a/k/a Calmar Mosley-Armstrong, a minor born on July 17, 2005, in Allegheny County, Pennsylvania. A Petition has been filed asking the court to put an end to all rights you have to your child, Calmar Calvin Mosley-Armstrong a/k/a Calmar Armstrong a/k/a Calmar Mosley-Armstrong a/k/a Calmar Mosely-Armstrong, a minor born on July 17, 2005, in Allegheny County, Pennsylvania. A Petition has been filed asking the court to put an end to all rights you have to your child, Calmar Calvin Mosley-Armstrong a/k/a Calmar Armstrong a/k/a Calmar Mosley-Armstrong a/k/a Calmar Mosely-Armstrong, a minor born on July 17, 2005, in Allegheny County, Pennsylvania. 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Section
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The Pittsburgh Post-Gazette shares with you the good news, good people and other good stuff in our neighborhoods and beyond. Know a good person or story that we should spotlight? Please email us at goodness@post-gazette.com



g5 Random Acts of Kindness: The doughnuts made him do it.

g4 These three women could be your vaccination appointment angels.

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goodness

Celebrating all that's good.



Peter Diana/Post-Gazette

Ryan Shazier works out under the watchful eye of his trainer, Chris Thompson, in his home gym in Fox Chapel. Inspired by the people he met while undergoing treatment and rehabilitation after a severe spinal cord injury, the former Steelers linebacker has created a foundation to help patients and their caregivers.

good vision

By Joyce Gannon
Pittsburgh Post-Gazette

During weeks of intensive rehab after a spinal cord injury left him temporarily paralyzed, former Steelers linebacker Ryan Shazier noticed some fellow patients weren't showing up for therapy as frequently as he was.

He started asking questions. "Why was someone there only once a week when I was getting rehab five times a week?" he inquired of therapists at the UPMC Rehabilitation Institute.

He'd chat up fellow patients, too. Their answers ranged from insurance plans that capped coverage for sessions to lack of a vehicle or support network to get them to appointments at the rehab institute at UPMC Mercy, Uptown.

Mr. Shazier suffered a spinal contusion in December 2017 during a Monday

'What is their world like?'

Former Steelers player Ryan Shazier's charity will support spinal cord injury patients and caregivers

night game against the Cincinnati Bengals.

A first-round draft pick in 2014 who appeared in two Pro Bowls, he acknowledged that as an NFL player, he had insurance and plenty of resources to cover his treatment and rehab.

"I was truly blessed," he said. "But I was seeing others not getting the same support as me, and I felt no matter what, financially and emotionally we all should have the same opportunities."

Thus was born the Ryan Shazier Fund

for Spinal Rehabilitation.

Launched in November, the philanthropy will provide grants, stipends and support to patients as well as their families and caregivers.

The fund has raised about \$500,000 to date and has set an initial fundraising goal of \$2.5 million.

"The first part is being able to build up proper reserves ... and have assurance the money is there to fulfill a promise," said Kate Dewey, a nonprofit expert and senior adviser at law firm Dentons

Cohen & Grigsby who is serving as secretary of the fund's board of directors.

Most spinal cord patients with insurance are eligible for 20 to 30 rehab sessions, said Caroline Boyce, the fund's executive director.

Mr. Shazier, 28, completed 130 rehab sessions including in-patient therapy at UPMC Mercy and outpatient therapy at UPMC Rooney Sports Complex on the South Side.

He continues to work out daily at 7 a.m. with his wife, Michelle, and with a therapist and trainer at his Fox Chapel home twice a week.

About 294,000 people in the U.S. are living with spinal cord injuries and about 17,810 new cases occur each year, according to 2020 data from the National Spinal Cord Injury Statistical Center at the University of Alabama at Birmingham.

The No. 1 cause is vehicular crashes, followed by falls, acts of violence including gunshot wounds, and sports or recreation.

The Shazier Fund has assembled a

SEE **SHAZIER**, PAGE G-2

Shy art studio owner delights others while making her own fun

good looks

By Bob Batz Jr.
Pittsburgh Post-Gazette

On July 1, when Gov. Tom Wolf ordered that, to mitigate the spread of COVID-19, Pennsylvanians in public had to wear masks, Bethel Park's April Watt-Little posted on her Facebook a selfie of her wearing a homemade "Star Wars"-themed protective mask over a toy "Black Panther" superhero mask that happened to be on

the living room floor.

"Instead of complaining about it, make it your mission to get creative! How do I look?" she wrote.

"Remember, things don't have to suck 24/7. Make your own fun." Her friends loved it.

Her husband, Darren Little, went to Five Below and bought her a few more costume masks, and she posted a few more silly selfies, embellishing her looks with makeup and props at her Splat! art studio four blocks away.

At that point, she said with a laugh, "It just started unraveling."

Every day since, she has posed for and posted a photo of herself wearing protective masks as well

as decorative masks and makeshift to full-blown costumes, as everything from a Princess Leia to Indiana Jones, a voodoo doll (her daughter's idea) to Betty Boop (a friend favorite). She was, for the Super Bowl, a "Superb Owl," a reference to "What We Do in the Shadows," a streaming vampire show she loves.

"It's funny: The more ridiculous ones make me the most happy," she says, describing how she created a Vincent Van Gogh using the plastic ear from a Mr. Potato Head doll. She loves repurposing and borrowing stuff from friends and

SEE **MASK**, PAGE G-4



April Watt-Little

April Watt-Little's daily mask photos include this one from Sept. 12, which she captioned, "What would life be if we had no courage to attempt anything?" — Vincent Van Gogh."

Phone, wallet, keys, mask.

HIGHMARK Do it right. Get back to life.



Former Steelers player Ryan Shazier's experiences after suffering a spinal contusion inspired him to help other patients.

Ryan Shazier's charity will support spinal cord injury patients — and their caregivers

SHAZIER, FROM G-1

group of spinal cord injury experts to help brainstorm on how best to distribute its funds and criteria for applications, said Ms. Boyce.

The first round of grants to spinal cord injury patients could be allocated later this year, she said, with grants for caregivers likely made in 2022.

The money could cover costs for rehab, referrals, counseling and other support.

"Every situation is different," said Mr. Shazier. "Some families may be more in need of a meal, while others may need help understanding the situation that just changed their lives. It would be nice to have someone with experience try to make their road smoother."

"Caregiving is not an easy task," said Michelle Shazier, 28. "Having a support system around with people who understand what you're dealing with on a day-to-day basis is huge."

During her husband's hospitalization and rehab, nurses and physical therapy staff frequently picked up meals for the family "and made us feel warm and comfortable," she said.

Members of the Steelers organization — including teammates, coaches and staff — were an ongoing presence while fans, other NFL players "and friends I hadn't talked to in years" reached out with messages on social media and prayers, she said.

"Support from people you don't even know — like the soldiers who had lost legs and said they were praying for us — is a blessing on its own."

She and her father-in-law, Vernon Shazier, acknowledged they bypassed some obstacles other families face when a loved one suffers a spinal cord injury.

Neither Michelle nor Mr. Shazier's parents were at the game when he was injured, but the Steelers flew them to Cincinnati within hours.

"Our situation was so blessed, and this is not true for most people," said Vernon Shazier, 50, a pastor in Fort Pierce, Fla., a former NFL team chaplain and a member of the Shazier Fund's board.

He sought counseling after his son's injury and has continued that along with an intense exercise regime to deal with depression.

"Caretaking is a heavy burden," he said. "So much attention is focused on the patient who suffered the injury, but nobody does that time alone. Others attached to them may have to make whatever sacrifices are necessary."

When he returned to preach at his Florida congregation, a friend helped the pastor pay for weekly flights back and forth to

Pittsburgh.

During his son's rehab at UPMC Mercy, he was bothered that many patients seemed to be struggling on their own without family or a support network.

"The pain we experienced was unbelievable, so I'm wondering, 'If we're hurting with all the support we're getting, what is their world like?'"

After his son's injury — which happened while making what Ryan Shazier remembers as a "routine tackle" — it wasn't clear whether he would walk again.

Less than a year later, in April 2018, he walked across a stage hand in hand with Michelle, his then-fiancee, to announce the Steelers' first-round draft pick.

"The pain we experienced was unbelievable so I'm wondering, 'If we're hurting with all the support we're getting, what is their world like?'"

Ryan Shazier

A year later, a clip of the two dancing at their wedding went viral.

Mr. Shazier now walks — and jogs — unassisted.

"Ryan's rehabilitation plan will be ongoing for the rest of his life," said Dr. David Okonkwo, professor of neurosurgery at the University of Pittsburgh and director of the Neurotrauma Clinical Trials Center at UPMC.

A member of the Steelers' medical staff, Dr. Okonkwo was on the sidelines the night Mr. Shazier was injured and two days later performed spinal stabilization surgery on him at UPMC Presbyterian.

"Ryan is now pivoting to trying to help as many people as possible in Western Pennsylvania and beyond gain access to the kind of care and resources that he received and that were so vital to his recovery," said Dr. Okonkwo, who sits on the fund's board.

Extending resources to families and caregivers was part of Mr. Shazier's plan "to pay it forward," he said.

The fund has a multi-pronged strategy for fundraising, said Ms. Boyce.

It's already launched appeals via social media, and on Giving Tuesday — an online event held each November — it generated \$100,000 in contributions.

It's also seeking partnerships and funds from corporations and foundations.

Last month, the Steelers and their wide receiver JuJu Smith-Schuster donated \$10,000.



Peter Diana/Post-Gazette photos

Ryan Shazier takes a break in between sets during his morning workout last month in his home gym in Fox Chapel. Find more photos at [post-gazette.com/goodness](https://www.post-gazette.com/goodness).



Ryan Shazier's wife, Michelle, joins him in his workout. "Caregiving is not an easy task," she said about the time her husband was undergoing treatment and rehab, and having a support system with people who understand "is huge."



Ryan Shazier's newly launched foundation will help spinal cord patients and their caregivers with costs such as referrals and counseling.

Live fundraising events will be planned when the COVID-19 pandemic subsides, said Ms. Boyce.

"Ryan will go out and be a spokesman," said Bill Kassling, chairman of the fund's board. "He'll walk into rooms and tell his story,

and that will be an inspiration."

Mr. Kassling, a former chairman and chief executive of North Shore-based Wabtec, met Mr. Shazier at a Penguins game when the two were seated in the same box.

That was before the injury brought an end to his playing career, but Mr. Shazier was already thinking beyond football, said Mr. Kassling, who became a mentor to the young football player.

When they met for lunch

a few times to talk about business, "Ryan would bring a notebook," said Mr. Kassling.

"Ryan has empathy," he said. "It's a very unusual thing for a fellow his age to have this kind of a vision and maturity."

Since announcing his retirement from football in September, Mr. Shazier finished his degree in psychology from Ohio State University.

He's a partner in a Sewickley fitness boutique and is considering other entrepreneurial ventures.

His spinal cord injury wasn't his first bout with physical and emotional challenges.

Growing up in Florida, he was diagnosed with alopecia, an autoimmune condition that results in hair loss, which made him the target of bullying.

He's writing a book that he said will be about "what it's like to get over adversity."

"Nobody expects this to happen," he said of spinal cord injuries. "Some people are heartbroken and torn and not able to get the amount of rehab they need. I was blessed with the opportunity to get better."

For more information, go to ryanshazierfund.org.

Joyce Gannon: jgannon@post-gazette.com.

Tree of Life pays it forward to Wilkinsburg School District

one good turn ...

By Joshua Axelrod
Pittsburgh Post-Gazette

Pittsburgh rallied around the Tree of Life synagogue following the anti-Semitic mass shooting on Oct. 27, 2018, that left 11 innocent worshippers dead and an entire congregation homeless.

Now Tree of Life is giving back to the region that took care of its constituents during those dark days. Members of the synagogue's Good Neighbor Committee delivered a cache of notebooks, pencils, ear buds and more school supplies to grateful employees of the Wilkinsburg School District on Jan. 16.

"We were seeing so much community support after Oct. 27, just waves and waves of love, support and healing," said Barb Feige, Tree of Life's executive director. "Now that we're looking at our own healing, part of that is giving back to those folks who helped us."

Tree of Life's Good Neighbor Committee, which was formed with the express purpose of reciprocating the kindness the congregation received, wanted to help an organization in the Pittsburgh area that was struggling due to the COVID-19 pandemic, according to committee co-chair Jessica Nock. One of its members happened to have a connection to the Wilkinsburg School District, which, like all school districts, has been trying to educate its students under extraordinary circumstances since March.

The committee decided



Members of the Tree of Life Congregation deliver school supplies to employees of the Wilkinsburg School District last month.



Jessica Nock, co-chair of Tree of Life's Good Neighbor Committee, said the committee wanted to help a local organization that was struggling due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

to put a call out for school supply donations via an Amazon gift registry, to which its members happily contributed. Ms. Nock collected those items, worth nearly \$1,000, and organized them into two 45-gallon tubs and four boxes that were distributed to families throughout the district. Wilkinsburg

Superintendent Linda Iverson said the district was "honored."

One of the folks on hand to receive the supplies was Joe Maluchnik, principal of Turner Intermediate School, which has been doing only online instruction all year. He said there was almost a sense of guilt in accepting a gift of this mag-

nitude from a group that's been through everything Tree of Life has, and he was moved by the synagogue's "generosity and their compassion and empathy."

Wilkinsburg also wants to pay it forward by getting its older students together to brainstorm ways to help Tree of Life and the community at large, according to Mr. Maluchnik.

"They reached out to us, and now I think it's time for our students ... to give back to them," he said. "That's what I asked them to do. ... We want to build upon that."

Ms. Nock also hopes that Wilkinsburg and Tree of Life can form a "long-lasting partnership" that extends far past the pandemic and will continue benefiting both the Jewish and education communities.

"We are a strong group," she said. "I think we are all very much focused on supporting our community through this."

Joshua Axelrod: jaxelrod@post-gazette.com and Twitter @jaxel222.



Courtesy of CNN

Brothers David, left, and Cecil Rosenthal, who were killed in the 2018 mass shooting at Tree of Life synagogue, are being honored by Achieva in the nonprofit's kindness campaign.

'Love Like the Boys' spreads cheer as David and Cecil did

... deserves another

By Joshua Axelrod
Pittsburgh Post-Gazette

Two victims of the terrible 2018 massacre at Squirrel Hill's Tree of Life synagogue are continuing to shine their light on Pittsburgh.

Cecil Rosenthal, 59, and his brother, David, 54, who both had a genetic condition that left them with intellectual disabilities, were gunned down during that morning's services. Their joyful spirits touched many, including the folks at Achieva, a nonprofit dedicated to helping those with disabilities that ran the community home where the Rosenthals lived.

Achieva has been honoring their memory and promoting kindness via its "Love Like the Boys" campaign, inspired by the way family and friends affectionately referred to the fully grown David and Cecil as "the boys."

"It was our way to keep their memory alive and bring some joy after such a

tragic event," said Lisa Razza, Achieva's director of communications.

The "Love Like the Boys" campaign encourages folks to print out "random acts of kindness" cards, available on Achieva's website, and distribute them to spread a little cheer in their names.

"They really epitomized what we want for the people we support: to live a life of personal significance," she said.

They're still contributing, thanks to "Love Like the Boys" and Achieva's David and Cecil Rosenthal Fund, which Ms. Razza described as a Make-A-Wish Foundation-esque initiative for people with disabilities. She also said the Rosenthal family's designation of Achieva as a fund to which people can donate in David and Cecil's memory has earned the organization at least \$200,000 in contributions.

Achieva has been working closely with Pittsburgh's Jewish community to ensure the Rosenthals were not killed in vain and to help their family heal. "I hope that they can find some peace despite the tragedy," Ms. Razza said. "I hope they can find joy in, for instance, these small acts of kindness that are completed in memory of Cecil and David."

Where Love Lives

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3 Pittsburgh women could be your vaccination appointment 'angels'

By Joshua Axelrod
Pittsburgh Post-Gazette

Although it's great that COVID-19 vaccines are publicly available, the lack of clarity on how to obtain one for yourself or loved ones is causing as much anxiety for many Pittsburghers as the disease itself.

"I was seeing a lot of confusion on Facebook, especially, people asking questions about where, when to get it," said Leighann Bacher, 29, of Hampton. "There are a lot of people who have no idea where to start."

That sense of chaos surrounding the vaccination rollout is what prompted Ms. Bacher, Heather Lucci and Liz Huber to start the Getting Pittsburgh Vaccinated Facebook group, which serves as a centralized hub where members can share information about where vaccines are in stock, how to sign up for appointments and more.

By mid-February, the group had more than 18,200 members and counting — a testament to how useful such a streamlined resource is proving to be in the early stages of vaccine distribution.

"Now that we have the vaccine, it's quite challenging to get a vaccination appointment," said Ms. Huber, 35, of McCandless. "We felt like we were in the dark as everything was unfolding. Sharing all that information with everyone else was really rewarding."

All three women are mothers of young children, with Ms. Bacher and Ms. Lucci having two kids each and Ms. Huber three. Ms. Lucci, 37, of Hampton, and Ms. Bacher met through their first graders, and, after both expressed their frustration with the current vaccine dispersal system, Ms. Lucci brought in Ms. Huber on their fledgling public service project.

While Ms. Huber works as a real estate agent and Ms. Bacher is the editorial di-



Maura Losch/Post-Gazette

good
guidance

rector of a marketing company, Ms. Lucci is a physician's assistant who was sick of being unable to point her patients in the general direction of a vaccine.

"I found that I kept hitting a wall," she said. "... I said to them, 'Let me be honest. I can help you with so many things, but I cannot answer that.' And that felt so helpless to me. I was grasping at straws trying to find ways to

feel helpful."

Their Facebook group has grown exponentially since launching Jan. 31, with its members now also cataloging their vaccine-procurement tips, while the three founders also provide individual assistance in scheduling appointments. Ms. Bacher said she has scheduled about 30 for Western Pennsylvanians in need, and Ms. Huber has booked between 75 and 100, while Ms. Lucci continues to provide her medical expertise whenever needed.

One person they helped get a vaccine appointment was Nancie Burch, 58, of Brentwood, who received her first dose Feb. 9. She suffers from both diabetes and rheumatoid arthritis and doesn't have access to a laptop, but she said Ms. Bacher was able to help her get an appointment by phone and even offered to drive her there if necessary.

"They're angels. Every one of those ladies are angels," Ms. Burch said. "It's not just them. Other people

have come to the group and started using their abilities to help other people. That whole group, they're angels."

They also assisted Susan Schroeder, 55, of Coraopolis, in securing vaccine appointments for her parents and her mother-in-law. Ms. Schroeder was particularly desperate to get her mother-in-law vaccinated so she can visit her husband, who has Parkinson's disease, in the nursing home where he lives.

"They are tremendously selfless people because they are devoting hours and hours of their time to help people they don't even know," Ms. Schroeder said. "They're touching a lot of people's lives."

Ms. Bacher likened the current difficulty of receiving a shot to being like "winning the lottery or playing a slot machine and you get that jackpot." Both she and Ms. Lucci have gotten their initial doses, and Ms. Huber, who isn't vaccine-eligible yet, finally was able to get her parents appointments

after struggling to do so for a while.

"The sense of relief, I don't even know if I can explain it," Ms. Huber said. "I didn't realize there was an elephant on my chest until I got the appointment. I got such relief and such joy, and I want other people to feel that joy, too."

The founders of Getting Pittsburgh Vaccinated are all heartened by what promises to be a more deliberate vaccine distribution process in the future with, they hope, enough shots on hand for everyone who needs one.

But for now, Pittsburghers can take advantage of their Facebook group if they've hit a dead end in finding a vaccine for themselves or someone they care about.

"We're just glad we can fill this void right now," Ms. Bacher said. "We're just happy to be here while we are necessary."

Joshua Axelrod: jaxelrod@post-gazette.com and Twitter @jaxel222.

Girl Scout Cookies Tagalong with deployed sailors

By Abby Mackey

Mark and Rebecca Thornsberry's Upper St. Clair home was devastated by a fluke electrical fire nine years ago. They weren't home for the blaze, but they lost most of their possessions. Having moved from Georgia just two years earlier, they assumed only family would come to their aid. But the couple — they own Chick-fil-A on Route 19 — had a community of customers and neighbors shower them with help.

Mrs. Thornsberry calls it a "pivotal point" for the family, which has made charitable community projects a monthly endeavor for their two girls, Ansley, 9, and Caroline, 7. They've delivered food to the Upper St. Clair Volunteer Fire Dept., raised \$130 for City Mission with a lemonade stand, and more. But one particular project has really taken off.

When the Thornsberry



Rebecca Thornsberry
Caroline, left, and Ansley Thornsberry announce this year's Girl Scout Cookie selling season in early January.

good
cookies

girls had just one day left of Girl Scout Cookie selling last year, their mom thought aloud, "I wish we knew someone in the military." Then she remembered Andrew Casson, their neighbors' son and a Navy F-18 fighter pilot who'd deployed just weeks before. After clearing the idea with his mother, Susan Casson, Mrs. Thornsberry asked Facebook friends to donate boxes of cookies to be sent to

Lt. Casson and his shipmates on the USS Theodore Roosevelt.

Within 24 hours, people bought 100 boxes of cookies for the 5,000-person aircraft carrier. Before the boxes were shipped, the Thornsberys, Cassons and friends affixed handwritten cards to each box with sentiments such as, "Thank you for your service," "So proud of you" and "Go Navy!" The arrival of the



Laurie Donovan Photography

From left, Caroline, Mark, Ethan, Rebecca and Ansley Thornsberry of Upper St. Clair make community projects a family activity, such as the girls selling Girl Scout Cookies that were then donated to the crew aboard a Navy aircraft carrier.

shipment was a surprise for Lt. Casson, 29, who spread the treats to as many sailors as possible. According to his wife of five years, Leigh, it was a welcome "taste of home" and a great way to break up the menu at sea, which "can get a little redundant."

The response cleared the runway for a more robust effort this year.

Girl Scout Cookie selling lasts for three weeks in January, as any Thin Mint-lover knows. According to Caroline's troop leader, Nicole Saniga, Girl Scouts had to "get real creative this year" since door-to-door sales were stymied by COVID-19. Despite the extra challenge, the Thornsberry girls doubled last year's goal, hoping to sell 200 boxes for the USS Roosevelt. According to Ms. Saniga, scouts sell 200 to 250

boxes on average. Ansley and Caroline crushed their goal and sold 750 boxes meant for the Navy ship, credit they'll split evenly.

Ms. Saniga is wowed by the girls' extra effort but said that "it isn't anything out of the ordinary for that family."

The girls will earn plenty of Girl Scouts swag: journals, canteens, socks, pillows, stuffed animals, Super Seller patches and a recognition dinner. But Mr. and Mrs. Thornsberry make sure the girls know this is more than a cookie-selling contest. Caroline explains she likes the project because "the Navy protects us." Ansley, who remembers some of their smaller service projects, prefers this one because "it helps a lot of people."

To ship the 750 cookie boxes — a journey that takes

at least four weeks — Mrs. Casson already has purchased 14 shipping boxes and expects she'll need more. Although she initially rebuffed offers of money, she's grateful for donations toward shipping costs, which are estimated at over \$700.

The handmade cards have extended the project's community of helpers. The girls' classrooms — first and third grade at Upper St. Clair's Eisenhower Elementary School — are using indoor recess time to create their share. Friends and family are volunteering, too. The colorful 4-by-6-inch pieces of construction paper are decorated with hand-drawn comic strips, airplanes, hearts and flags, with sayings such as, "I'm sorry that you're far away from your family." That's one that hits home for Leigh.

When her husband is deployed, it's "the little things" and "his friendship" she misses the most, as she runs their Virginia Beach, Va., home and cares for their 14-month-old son, Nolan. For her, "There isn't much of the general public who thinks about the number of people who are deployed all the time," which can make Blue Star families feel a bit invisible. But the sweetness of the Thornsberry family — and 750 boxes of Girl Scout Cookies — has helped.

As Mrs. Casson explains, "It makes you feel like other people get it a little bit."

Abby Mackey: abbyrose.mackey@gmail.com, Twitter @AnthroAbbyRN and IG @abymackeywrites.



Photos courtesy of April Watt-Little

April Watt-Little captioned this pandemic photo, "We Can Do It!" — Rosie the Riveter (Aug. 6, 2020)."



Posing with daughter Katie, she wrote: "Normal is an illusion. What is normal for the spider is chaos for the fly." — Wednesday Addams, 'The Addams Family' (Sept. 29, 2020)."



"Boop-Oop-a-Doop." — Betty Boop, created by Max Fleischer (Jan. 25, 2021) is the caption of another photo. Find more photos at post-gazette.com/goodness.

Shy art studio owner delights others while making her own fun

MASK, FROM G-1

says that while some shoots are planned, the best ones she just throws together with whatever is on hand.

Her Jan. 23 riff on Sen. Bernie Sanders in mittens she did sitting in a chair in her front yard with slippers on her hands — close enough. As she noted on her Feb. 5 National Weatherperson's Day post of herself in a rainbow wig, sun tiara and cloud pajamas, "I made an 'It's Raining Cats & Dogs' prop, but the cats and dogs couldn't sit still

for the picture and they looked more like drunken flying squirrels, anyway. Oh well."

People don't always "get" the images. When she wrapped herself in plastic as an homage to "The X-Files," people thought she was referencing "Dexter." So she's been adding more caption information from quotes to quips.

The 45-year-old professes to being a pop culture nerd, which you clearly can see in what's now 235 photos. What you can't necessarily see is that she also describes herself as shy. She explains that she

felt comfortable letting loose to her real friends on her personal Facebook, where she figures that 80 to 200 of about 500 people are now regularly engaging with her on the "Mask Project." Per suggestion of her 12-year-old daughter, Katie, she also is posting them for a younger demographic on Instagram (@jackbunnyfly). The feedback gratifies and fuels her.

She says, "I don't like to disappoint people," even if that means asking her husband — "my very patient, loving husband" — to take another shot at one of the

suitable locations in their little house, even if it's at 8:30 at night. If she's late, someone is bound to message her asking when she's going to post.

Don't take that the wrong way. She says, "I'm not a bragging kind of person. Really, it's a coping mechanism for me. I just wanted to be a source of positivity in the midst of all this negativity."

Her followers get in on the fun, commenting with their own jokes and puns, even requests.

Her friend Leah Uhl says, "I look forward to her post every day, and so does my

husband, who doesn't use social media, so he has to ask me nightly to see what April did! I love how she has taken a hard, tough thing and brought joy and magic to it."

Friend Nancy Martin says "her masked social media characters have highlighted her intelligence, creativity and wonderful sense of humor" and "have brought joy and laughter to many during this less than joyful time. I love that she started dressing up and posting as a way to cheer herself up and ended up entertaining and cheering all of us up, as well."

Ms. Watt-Little doesn't plan to stop until the mandatory mask order does.

In the meantime, this is keeping the creative juices going not only for her but also for her young students at the art studio, of a wide range of ages and abilities, who also offer lots of ideas, feedback and even help with costuming.

"The most magical thing," she says, "is to have kids want to talk with me about these projects."

Bob Batz Jr.: bbatz@post-gazette.com, 412-263-1930 and on Twitter @bobbatzjr.

good work

By Tyler Dague
Pittsburgh Post-Gazette

Jo Ellen Bowman was surprised. She was watching a livestream of her granddaughter play in a championship volleyball match when she received a text message.

A longtime advocate and provider of victims services in Armstrong County, she was contacted by a fellow staff member at Helping All Victims In Need, a domestic violence and sexual assault shelter and services center.

A reporter wanted to talk to her about winning an award. Ms. Bowman didn't realize Gov. Tom Wolf had announced that Friday the winners of the Governor's Victim Service Pathfinder Awards, granted to Pennsylvanians for their work with crime victims.

"I thought, 'Oh, who won the award?'" she said. "I really didn't think I'd win."

"I feel that it's my privilege to serve people that reach out during their time of crisis or need, wherever they are," Ms. Bowman added. "I always feel honored to serve them."

Three women in the Pittsburgh area received Pathfinder Awards Jan. 15—Ms. Bowman, Gail Brown and, posthumously, Joyce McAneny—for their outstanding contributions to their communities and the victim services field. The annual awards are administered by the Office of Victims' Services in the Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency.

Serving others in Armstrong County has been Ms. Bowman's life's work. She began working with the local area agency on aging in 1983. She transitioned to public child welfare for the county and served there 10 years. She then became a therapist and later served as executive director of HAVIN for 19 years before retiring in November. (She thought the governor's office may have sent an email to her old address to give her the news.)

Ms. Bowman now works part time as the manager of Kay's Cottage, the children's advocacy center program under HAVIN, and continues work as a forensic interviewer for abuse cases. As she recounted her varied career in victims services, she repeatedly said she "loved" the work she did. For her contributions, she received the Pathfinder Individual Direct Service Award.

During her time as executive director of HAVIN, Ms. Bowman spearheaded the opening of Kay's Cottage, realizing the underutilized facility in Kittanning could house such a program. Her idea for a children's advocacy center came to fruition in 2016. The organization submitted paperwork Jan. 15 to become fully accredited by the National Children's Alliance, a professional membership organization with a model of high-quality standards of care.

"[Working at Kay's Cottage has] been, by far, one of the most rewarding things I've ever done professionally, to be able to bring that service at that high level to a small rural county," she said.

To receive the award, Ms.



Steve Mellon/Post-Gazette

Gail J. Brown, at the South Side offices of Pittsburgh Action Against Rape, is one of the local recipients of the Governor's Victim Service Pathfinder Awards, honoring Pennsylvanians for their work with crime victims.

Governor honors 3 Pittsburgh-area women for their work in victim services



Pittsburgh Post-Gazette

Jo Ellen Bowman, at home in Apollo, was recognized for her work as an advocate and a provider of victims services.



Joyce McAneny was honored posthumously for her work advocating for victims of domestic violence.

Bowman said she had to be nominated by two other Pennsylvania administrators in the field, and her successor at HAVIN and a victim who had been served by her submitted letters on her behalf. In addition to administrative tasks as executive director, she continued to provide direct services for clients on a regular basis.

"I really respect everybody, and I think coming forward when you've been a victim of some kind of interpersonal trauma is really difficult," Ms. Bowman said. "And I just felt it was a privilege to be there to listen and support them in any way they need. That's what my passion's been."

Gail J. Brown, of Castle Shannon, had a different

path to her work. She earned her degree in education and responded to an ad from Pittsburgh Action Against Rape as the South Side Flats advocacy organization looked to expand its education department.

Nearly 20 years later, Ms. Brown has spoken to children from elementary school through college, as well as adults and parents in the community, educating them through trainings and presentations on boundaries, safety and prevention of sexual harassment and violence. She received the Pathfinder Individual Prevention, Education and Outreach Award.

For kindergarteners, Ms. Brown discusses boundaries and personal space. With third graders, she talks about being a good friend and helping those who are bullied or harassed. By eighth grade, the conversation moves toward dating and consent. And PAAR's "Parents in the Know" program provides adults with lessons on how to set healthy boundaries with kids, how to talk about the issue of bystander intervention and how to keep children safe.

"The sexual violence prevention education across the board has moved into primary prevention, looking at what are the things we can do before something actually happens, before an assault happens, before sexual

harassment happens," Ms. Brown said.

"It makes it [so] everybody [is] stepping up in the community to end sexual violence and stop these kinds of things from happening."

Ms. Brown emphasized the award meant a lot to her because she said many people think of victims' services and don't think of the prevention aspect of her work. She also mentioned her favorite part of the job is getting to talk about difficult subjects of sexual harassment and assault and to be proactive and helpful about such matters.

"For my co-workers and myself, to go to work every day and have to hear some really tough things, that takes a really special person, and it takes a lot of caring and a lot of heart to do that," Ms. Brown said. "I think that's a thing that makes PAAR a really great place."

"For me, I think winning this award is that recognition that prevention and education is a really important part of the work, too. And that I'm really glad to be a part of that."

Joyce McAneny was a familiar face for countless folks who reached out to the nonprofit Women's Center & Shelter of Greater Pittsburgh on the South Side Flats in need of support.

Initially a volunteer, she became a paid non-attorney legal advocate at the Women's Center and began a career of more than 20 years, prioritizing the needs of victims of domestic violence in and out of the justice system.

Ms. McAneny was posthumously given the Pathfinder Individual Direct Service Award. She died unexpectedly of cancer in 2018 shortly after retiring from advocacy work.

But the Women's Center's chief legal officer, Lorraine Bittner, worked with Ms. McAneny throughout the decades and nominated her for the award. She said Ms. McAneny would regularly run into people she had served.

"She directly touched thousands of victims' lives by supporting them through

the justice system," Ms. Bittner said. "One time, Joyce and her husband were out to dinner, and the waitress recognized her and said, 'You're Joyce McAneny. You saved my life.' That was a typical story for her."

A legal advocate provides direct services to victims of domestic violence and helps them navigate the justice system, explaining legal options, helping with safety planning or accompanying victims to court hearings. Although Ms. McAneny eventually managed nine legal advocates, she continued to provide direct services for victims.

"She was a tireless advocate," Ms. Bittner said. "She had her heart and soul into the work. Any time of the day people needed her, she was available."

Ms. McAneny also trained city and county police officers in how to understand the dynamics of domestic violence scenes and was active in role playing that offered real-life examples. Ms. Bittner recalled she did training for every Pittsburgh police officer when the city implemented a new domestic violence intervention model in 2013.

She also challenged those in the court system to better serve victims. Ms. Bittner remembered Ms. McAneny always said, "The question shouldn't be, 'Why did she stay?' Your question should be 'Why did he continue to abuse?'"

"She helped police, prosecutors, judges and other court staff on the importance of holding batterers accountable and understanding victims can be reluctant," Ms. Bittner. "I think that was part of her legacy as well."

Other Pathfinder Award winners this year included Pearl Kim of Murphy Law Firm in West Chester, Lara Dushkewich of the Domestic Violence Center of Chester County, and the Nationalities Service Center's Immigrant Survivor Services Program in Philadelphia.

Tyler Dague: rda-gue@post-gazette.com, 412-263-1569 and on Twitter @rt-dague.

good feedback

'Special kudos to the kids'

Thank you for your work on the "Words Without Walls" project (Jan. 24). A good friend of mine (Sister Pat Bartolo) sent me the article and the link to the video, and I was impressed with the piece. Kudos to you for writing the article and to the adults involved with the project—and extra special kudos to the kids who worked so hard on the script.

In Latrobe, we did a similar project between my theater company and a few of the girls at Adelphoi. We presented it on stage in 2016. I am attaching a copy of the script—not because I want you to do anything with it, but because I want to demonstrate that there should be more attention paid to these kinds of projects. In these difficult and polarized times, we all need to be reminded of the basic goodness of people, especially the young. Your article does that.

JOHN J. CAROSELLA
The Cabaret Theatre
Latrobe

I very much enjoy the new goodness section. Not sure if you have more than enough projects to feature, but in case you are looking for more, may I suggest the Knead Community Cafe in New Kensington? They provide many free meals to individuals and families in need. They also serve as a hub for winter clothing drives and donations. Additionally, they have ignited a spark in the revitalization of a downtowned downtown. They are doing a lot of good for this depressed area.

BRENDAN MAKAREWICZ
Stanton Heights

Thank you for initiating the "goodness" section. At a time when most news is bleak and discouraging, it is so uplifting to be reminded that there is still much good to celebrate right here in our area. A great way to begin the week!

JOAN McMAHON
Brentwood

I want to commend the Pittsburgh Post-Gazette for the lovely idea of a "goodness" section, which is always a good idea and especially currently.

TERESA DIX
Mt. Lebanon

Like your new section of the newspaper.

Many years ago, probably in the '60s, The Pittsburgh Press ran a very small poem on the bottom front page every day. It was very uplifting. I don't know why the name Love comes to mind. They might bring some well-needed inspiration.

Often think of those little poems and wished I had cut some out to save, but busy growing up I guess.

ANNA MAE TOWNSEND
Shaler

Post-Gazette librarian extraordinaire Steve Karlinchak recognized this syndicated feature as "Love is..." and it continues, via Tribune Content Agency: <https://tribunecontentagency.com/premium-content/comics/love-is>.

Thank you for bringing to us the new goodness section. It's exactly what we need to hear—some good news around the Pittsburgh area. I applaud you for giving us some upbeat stories to start our week. We all could use more positive strokes!

P.S. I love the name "goodness" because it's the word that covers all of your stories. Keep it going. You're doing a great job!

CAROL FLICKINGER
Etna

Thanks for all the feedback! We want to hear your comments, suggestions and story ideas. Email editor Bob Batz Jr. at goodness@post-gazette.com. Or write goodness at the Post-Gazette, 358 North Shore Drive, Suite 300, Pittsburgh, PA 15212.

random acts of kindness

Paying it forward makes for blessed day

On the way to Giant Eagle, my car somehow drove me right into the sweetly evil Dunkin' drive-thru in Plum, and I ordered doughnuts and coffee and donned my mask.

At the window to take my nutritionally challenged but yummy doughnuts, I thrust the credit card toward the young woman to pay five-something bucks. Then she made my day. "Yours is paid for," she said. "The lady before you paid for yours. She said to 'have a blessed day.'"

I had spied in the rearview mirror a young couple in the front seats of



James Hilston/Post-Gazette

the older-model car and a young boy in the back. I said, "How much is theirs?" as I motioned backward with my head cautiously, not wanting to pay for \$100 worth of luscious pastry. "You want to pay for theirs? This happens a lot. Theirs is

\$7.20." "Yes," I replied, "kinda pay it forward?" "Yeah," she said.

"Thank you very much, and you have a very nice day," I finished. The worker replied, "You, too, and I'll tell them you said, 'Have a

nice day."

"Please do," I said. In a parking spot there, I ate doughnuts and drank pumpkin-flavored coffee with just the right spice kick. I felt good about the woman's courtesy and how I had passed it on, also to strangers.

A momentary respite from feeling bad about the ravages of COVID-19, money woes for so many, global warming, racial strife and an attack on presidential succession itself.

As the Dunkin' cashier had put it, this random act of kindness "happens a lot." Have a blessed day.

JOHN O'BRIEN
Murrysville

Acts of kindness truly a Pittsburgh thing

I love reading Random Acts of Kindness. Being born and raised in

Pittsburgh, most often I say to myself, "Sure this is Pittsburgh" the many times the same has happened to me or when I have helped others. Again Pittsburgh.

I'm not a world traveler, but I've been a few places people just walk by. And if they do help, a lot of times either they have moved from Pittsburgh or are visiting like you.

Moving to Sunday, why not use a half-page for letters?

NANCY JO LAUSO
Baldwin Borough

The Post-Gazette's Kevin Flowers coordinates Random Acts of Kindness. If someone has done you or someone else right, please tell him about it at kflowers@post-gazette.com. You also can write Random Acts of Kindness at the Post-Gazette, 358 North Shore Drive, Suite 300, Pittsburgh, PA 15212.



**Phone, wallet,
keys, mask.**



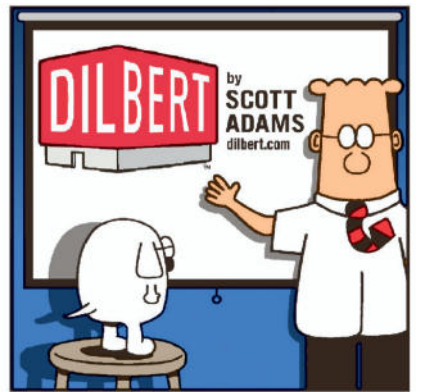
Do it right. Get back to life.

COMICS & PUZZLES

Sunday, February 21 - Saturday, February 27, 2021

CLASSIC PEANUTS

BY CHARLES SCHULZ



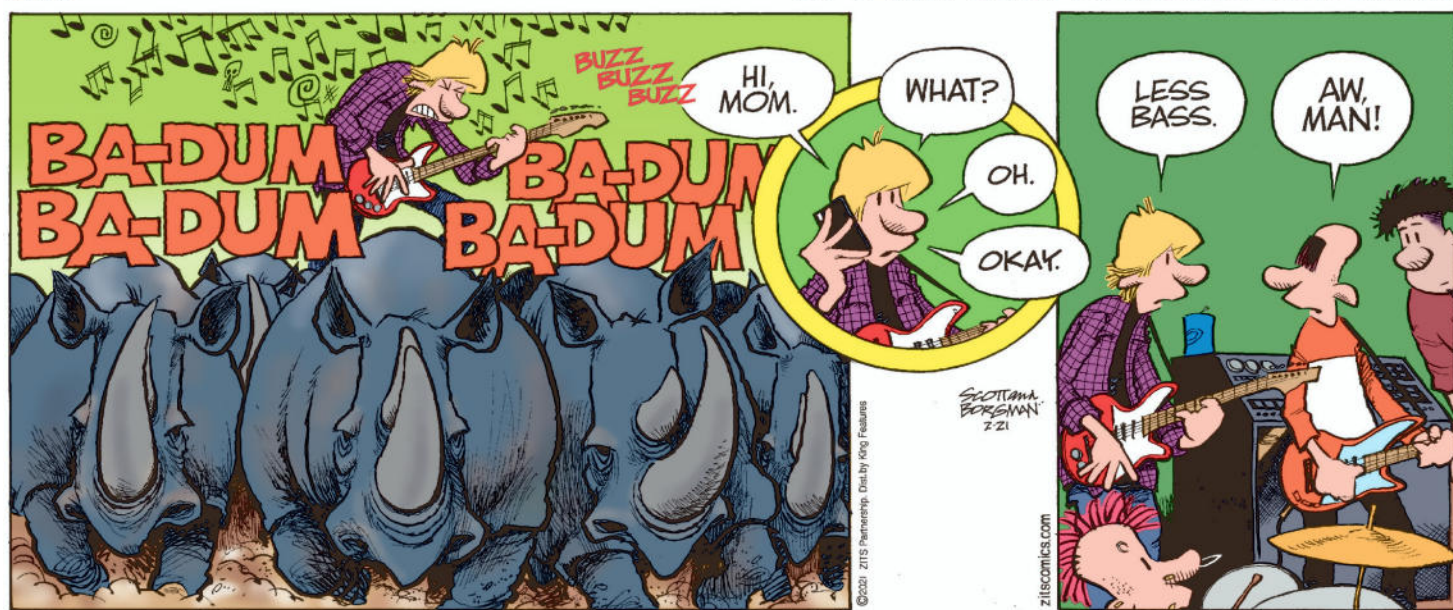
BABY BLUES

BY RICK KIRKMAN & JERRY SCOTT



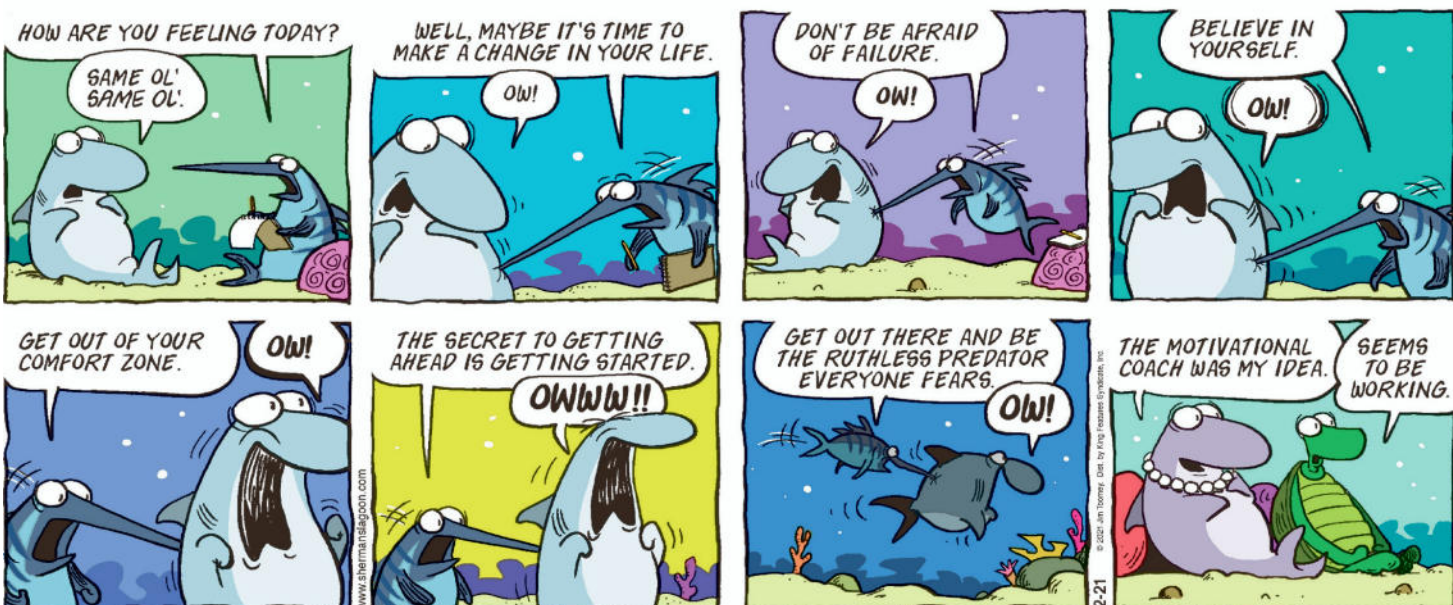
ZITS

BY JERRY SCOTT AND JIM BORGMAN



SHERMAN'S LAGOON

BY JIM TOOMEY



BLONDIE
BY DEAN KELLOGG & JOHN MARSHALL

I'M BACK, HONEY!

HONEY TOOTSIE AND I ARE BACK FROM OUR LUNCHEON AND MOVIE

YAWN! THAT'S GREAT!

YOU'VE BEEN ON THAT SOFA SINCE I LEFT THE HOUSE?

YEAH, I GUESS SO, SWEETHEART

DOESN'T THAT SEEM LIKE A WASTE OF A PERFECTLY GOOD AFTERNOON?

SO I TOLD HER THAT PROBABLY DEPENDS ON HER DEFINITION OF WASTING A PERFECTLY GOOD AFTERNOON

THAT'S EXACTLY WHAT I SAID TO TOOTSIE!

HAGAR THE HORRIBLE
BY DIK BROWNE

HAGAR, ARE YOU GOING TO SPEAK AT THE TOWN MEETING TONIGHT?

I HAVE NOTHING IMPORTANT TO SAY TO THOSE PEOPLE.

AND ANOTHER THING...

YOUR TIME IS UP, SIR! SIT DOWN!

BAM BAM

HAGAR, YOU INSULTED EVERYONE AT THIS TOWN MEETING! YOU NEED TO STAND UP AND APOLOGIZE!

I HAVE A RIGHT TO SPEAK MY MIND !!

WHEN WAS THE LAST TIME YOU STOOD UP AND APOLOGIZED?

I'D LIKE TO APOLOGIZE FOR MY HUSBAND'S REMARKS!

THAT DOESN'T COUNT!

HAL FOSTER'S
Prince Valiant
BY SCHULTZ AND YEATES

AS THE LORDS KENNARD, RAVINGER AND HALLAM HOLD COUNCIL IN WEDMARSH, A MESSENGER FROM LOCKBRAMBLE RIDES TO WEDMARSH BEARING AN INVITATION ...

... FROM RORY RED HOOD, CALLING FOR A MEETING BETWEEN REPRESENTATIVES OF LOCKBRAMBLE AND THOSE LORDS. THE PURPOSE BEING TO ADDRESS THEIR GRIEVANCES REGARDING THEIR LOSS OF LABOR TO LOCKBRAMBLE.

THE THREE BROTHERS ARE OUTRAGED - HOW DARE A COMMON WENCH CALL FOR NOBLEMEN TO COME TO HER CALL? BUT THEN A CAPTAIN OF HALLAM'S GUARD APPROACHES AND TELLS OF TWO KNIGHTS WHO RECENTLY TOOK POSSESSION OF A DEAD MAN'S FAMILY, CLAIMING ARTHUR'S LAW - COULD THIS BE COINCIDENCE?

"NO!" BELLOWS KENNARD, "CAMELOT AGAIN SIDES AGAINST US! BUT WE CAN USE ARTHUR'S LAW TO OUR ADVANTAGE! I SAY WE AGREE TO THIS MEET, AND ONCE THERE DEMAND THE KNIGHTS CONTEST OF CHAMPIONS - THE LOSING PARTY TO SUBMIT TO THE OTHERS WILL!"

AND WE WILL ASSUREDLY WIN, AS I KNOW AN OUTLAWED KNIGHT FOR HIRE - A GIANT WHO HAS GREAT SKILL - AND A WILLINGNESS TO WIN AT ANY COST. THERE IS NO QUESTION THAT HE CAN BEST WHATEVER AGENT OF CAMELOT THAT THE RED HOOD WOULD THROW AT US!

NEXT The outlaw

NON SEQUITUR
by Wiley

MEETING of the MINDS

WHOA, WHOA, WHOA... YOU'RE NOT SUPPOSED TO BE HERE!

UH... WHY NOT?

'CUZ YOU'RE AN ANOMALY

OK...WHAT DOES THAT MEAN?

SOMETHING THAT'S OUT OF PLACE

HUH?

HUMANS AND DINOSAURS ARE SEPARATED BY MILLIONS OF YEARS, SO YOU DON'T BELONG HERE WITH ME.

SO...THAT MEANS I WAS HERE FIRST, RIGHT?

YEAH... SO?

WELL, DOESN'T THAT MAKE YOU THE ANOMALY?

WAIT...NO...YOU'RE VIOLATING THE NATURAL ORDER! NATURE DECIDES WHO STAYS AND WHO GOES!

OH, OK...

THEN WRP: I GUESS WE AGREE

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CARPE DIEM

BY NIKLAS ERIKSSON

THEY'RE MILLIONS OF MILES FROM THEIR HOME PLANET. ALL WE NEED TO DO IS DESTROY THEIR COFFEE MACHINE.

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SALLY FORTH

BY FRANCESCO MARCIULIANO & JIM KEEFE

WHAT'S WRONG, SAL?

IT'S...IT'S JUST WINTER'S GETTING TO ME AGAIN...

I'VE BEEN GETTING NATURAL SUNLIGHT, USING THE LIGHT BOX, EATING RIGHT, EXERCISING REGULARLY...

AND YET STILL MY ENERGY IS KINDA LOW.

AWWW, BUT THIS CERTAINLY IS A NICE PICK-ME-UP.

IF YOU WANT, WE CAN KICK IT UP A NOTCH BY HIL AND ME SINGING TO YOU ON THE KARAOKE MACHINE.

I JUST GOT A COLLECTION OF SECOND SINGLES FROM '80S ONE-HIT WONDERS.

PLEASE DON'T.

THANK YOU, MOM. I NEVER EVEN HEARD OF THE BAND "KANGAROO."

ACTUALLY, IT'S "KAJAGOOGOO." THEY HAD OTHER HITS IN THE UK.

PLUS, THE LEAD SINGER SCORED HIS OWN HIT WITH THE TITLE SONG FROM "THE NEVERENDING STORY."

OKAY, I FEEL LIKE WE'RE LOSING THE NARRATIVE THREAD OF THIS ENTIRE CONVERSATION.

I KNOW IT'S ONLY 8" OUTSIDE, MOM, BUT WANNNA TRY FOR SOME OF THAT NATURAL SUNLIGHT AGAIN?

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MACANUDO

BY LINIERS

TIME FOR YOUR CLEANING, DRAXON. A HEALTHY SMILE MAKES A LASTING IMPRESSION.

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SLYLOCK FOX and COMICS FOR KIDS

BY BOB WEBER JR.

Spot six differences between these panels.

For more Spot Six Differences, Slylock Fox and other puzzles and comics go to www.slylockfox.com

Answer -- Flower, cat's tail, bird's feather, rabbit's teeth, dog's ears and boy's hair.

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Furious forest citizens complained that Count Weirdly punctured many car tires in the past 10 minutes with his castle-top laser gun. But Weirdly insists he's been busy writing formulas on the easel for the past 10 minutes. Why does Slylock Fox doubt the count's alibi?

Solution -- The formulas are written in black, but Count Weirdly is holding a white crayon.

Your Drawing
Today's terrific artist is Victor, age 16

Submit your black-and-white drawing to www.slylockfox.com

THE BORN LOSER

by Art & Chip Sansom

YES, THEY ARE, I DECIDED I NEEDED ONE, TOO.

GUESS WHAT I JUST GOT, ARNIE!

DID YOU GET IT TO HELP DETER PORCH PIRATES FROM TAKING YOUR PACKAGES?

I PURCHASED ONE OF THOSE VIDEO DOORBELLS FOR THE HOUSE.

OH, YEAH? I'VE HEARD THOSE ARE GAINING IN POPULARITY.

WELL, I SUPPOSE IT WOULD BE HELPFUL WITH THAT...

BUT THE REASON I BOUGHT IT IS FOR THOSE TIMES WHEN THE PIZZA DUDE COMES AND I'M DOWN IN THE BASEMENT!

Mort Walker's **beetle bailey**

WHAT'S THAT? "COOKIE'S BLAZING CHILI!"

I'M MARKETING MY OWN BRAND

I'LL MAKE MILLIONS!

CAN I TRY IT? HELP YOURSELF

THE FAMILY CIRCUS

By Phil Keane

Blessed are the peacemakers...

PICKLES

ANY MAIL FOR ME? HMM. LET ME SEE...

NOPE. THERE ARE A COUPLE FOR ME...

WHAT ARE YOU SMILIN' ABOUT?

BY BRIAN CRANE

...AND A POSTCARD FOR ROSCOE FROM HIS GROOMER. HERE YOU GO, BOY.

I DON'T NEED YOUR PITY!

WHAT DO YOU THINK? WE'RE TALKING MILLIONS IN CLASS-ACTION LAWSUITS!

RHYMES WITH ORANGE

BY HILARY B. PRICE

WHAT A RACKET-- THEY JUST WANT YOU TO LIVE LONGER SO YOU'LL SPEND MORE MONEY.

NATURAL FOODS

Get this cartoon framed at Rhymeswithorange.com
HILARY B. PRICE BY STRAHL 2-21 ©2021 RWS studios Dist. By King Features