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NOVEMBER 18, 2020

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CITY

Council: Release relief funds

BY DOUGLAS GRAVES
Special to the Bethlehem Press

City council heard a first reading Nov. 4 of a resolution calling for the Pa. general assembly to allocate unspent coronavirus relief funds to support the city's vulnerable communities and businesses, students, restaurants, and [other] small businesses, including minority-owned small businesses that are being impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic.

As a first reading of the resolution, it will be on the agenda of the next regular meeting of the council.

The proposed resolution urges the Lehigh County Board of Commissioners and Northampton County Council to quickly allocate [Bethlehem's share of] the unspent coronavirus relief funds.

The meeting was remote with nearly all members and spectators absent and the business conducted over YouTube.

During the public comment phase of the meeting, Hotel Bethlehem Managing Director Bruce Haines objected to plans to demolish and replace the parking garage on Walnut Street.

"The Walnut Street garage was built in 1975. It was built like a brick house," said Haines. "Let's put it that way. It was over-sped and over-designed for the times. It's way overbuilt in regard to beam construction and load; built to last. This garage was built to last forever.

"I believe the garage should not be torn down. It is not in the kind of bad shape requiring tear-down. I think [the contractor] is very conflicted to be establishing the repair cost.

"I believe it would be irresponsible to not have a second opinion about the cost of repairs."

Council approved a grant application for \$213,740 from PennDOT to expand and improve the Monocacy Way trail.

In other business, the city council approved 5-1 the appointment of Loren L. Speziale to the Human Relations Commission. Councilman Bryan Callahan opposed the appointment. His "no" vote was because, according to Callahan, Speziale had not supported his proposed "equal pay for equal work."



PRESS PHOTOS BY NATE JASTRZEMSKI

Emcee and National Museum and Industrial History Board Member Don Trexler welcomes an audience of about a hundred veterans, family members and supporters to the new home of the Steelworkers Veterans Memorial, at the museum's entrance Nov. 11.

'Rededicating our efforts'

Veterans honored at memorial's new NMIH home

BY NATE JASTRZEMSKI
njastrzemi@tnonline.com

The annual Veterans Steelworkers Memorial ceremony Nov. 11, well attended despite worsening weather, was held at its new home for the first time since 1989 at the entrance of the National Museum of Industrial History.

Service members, veterans, politicians and supporters spoke in reverence of generations of men and women who stepped forward to sacrifice for the national benefit.

The keynote speaker was Master Sgt. Stephan C. Potsko, an Army reservist and Lehigh



Keynote speaker Master Sgt. Stephan Potsko talks about the many ways the Steel and men of Bethlehem are intertwined in a century of wars.

University ROTC cadre member.

"First and foremost, I want to begin today by recognizing all those among us who've been part of this great brotherhood and sisterhood we call the U.S. military. Your service and sacrifice have kept our country free. Times change and the world changes ... it feels like part of our own history is fading around us, so we look to those elements that are persistent; things like this veterans memorial.

"In just about a week it'll be a full 25 years since the furnaces here at the mill went cold for good. The 'Last Cast,' as it is known, signaled the end of an era, but not the end of the memories of those who lived

See **EFFORTS**
on Page A2

More
Veterans
Day
coverage
A15

PEOPLE SAY
BY DANA GRUBB

How much will the surge in Coronavirus cases impact plans for your holidays?



"We can't get together with my father-in-law who is in his early nineties, because I'm considered an essential worker and can't be around him."

Cathy Zver
Bethlehem



"It won't affect me at all."

Annette Mary Terleski
Andreas

PEOPLE SAY
Continues on A2

INSIDE TODAY
2020 virtual
CROP walk
Page A14

BETHLEHEM PRESS

VOLUME 16, ISSUE 7

INSIDE
THE PRESS

Arts.....	B3
Business	B5
Classified	B6
Community update	A3
Dining	A13
Focus	B1
Lifestyle	B2
Milestones	A16
News&views	A14
Sports.....	A9
Worship.....	B4



Lehigh University ROTC members, Bethlehem Police mounted unit officers and members of the Nam Knights gather under misty skies.



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How much will the surge in Coronavirus cases impact plans for your holidays?



"Like everybody our parties were canceled and we won't be seeing my family at Christmas this year."
Tracy Gildner
Northampton



"My plans haven't changed because it's always my immediate family and we work on holidays because we're considered essential."
Alexandra Cortese
Bethlehem



"I'm not sure what we'll be doing, but if my mom is cooking we'll be there."
Katie Mercadante
Northampton



"My family already canceled for Thanksgiving and Christmas. Better safe than sorry."
Allison Clause
Saylorsburg

COLLEGE NOTES

Northampton Community College

Dual Enrollment Information sessions
Northampton Community College is offering Zoom based dual enrollment information sessions at 6 p.m. Nov. 18 and at 11 a.m. Nov. 20. The course is for current high school college prep, honors / AP or career / tech students. The session will cover dual enrollment benefits, costs, application process, registration for classes and scholarship opportunities.
To register go to info.northampton.edu/de-info-sessions

Low cost dental clinic offered

Northampton Community College dental hygiene students and the Litwak Dental Clinic are providing multiple oral assessments, cancer screenings, dental cleanings, radiographs, fluoride treatments and dental screenings. The students are under the supervision of licensed hygienists and dentists.
The Fowler Family Southside Center clinic is open Monday, Wednesday and Friday. Dental cleanings are free for all NCC credit students. The public may utilize the services for a nominal fee. For appointments, call 610- 861-5442.

THANKSGIVING TIPS

It's all about balance: Balancing your plate is a way to stay on a healthy track without getting bogged down in having to focus on consuming certain nutrients or worrying about counting calories or carbs. Choose the items you want the most, but don't forget to fill your plate with lots of veggies and lean protein-filled dishes. Of course, it's also okay to take bite-sized portions of more indulgent courses and desserts - (mostly) everything is okay in moderation. Balance is truly the perfect way to have your cake (or pie) and eat it, too!

Smart substitutions: Try some healthy twists on your favorite classics to make your meal a little bit lighter. Swapping ingredients such as Greek yogurt and applesauce in baked goods cuts back on fat without sacrificing taste or texture. Choosing a whole wheat pasta provides added nutrient benefits, as whole wheat flour yields more fiber and naturally occurring nutrients. Consider trying a cauliflower mash for added fiber content!

Pile up on protein: Lucky for us, turkey is a lean meat! Lean proteins that are full of flavor give meals a more satisfying flavor profile. If you're craving more turkey, small amounts of turkey bacon can be a great way to add extra flavor to your favorite dishes. Try adding crumbled turkey bacon to a side dish of green beans or Brussels sprouts. Chicken sausage is another great option. Low in saturated fat, but full of flavor, you don't need to add many ingredients to prepare a quick, healthy and tasty side.

Beware of overindulging: When indulging in a treat, like that classic pumpkin pie, it's important to practice portion control to prevent overindulging. If you are still hungry after one serving, rather than reaching for another slice, try snacking on a more nutritious piece of fruit.

Natalie Menza-Crowe, MS, RD,
Director of health and wellness at ShopRite



Officers, enlisted men and cadets of the Lehigh University Reserve Officer Training Corps, nicknamed "The Steel Battalion," provide the colors for the ceremony. More Veterans Day coverage on A14.



Master Sgt. Lymman Langijota, who arrived in Bethlehem in June from an Airborne assignment in Germany, is now the senior enlisted advisor for the Lehigh University ROTC. Langijota welcomes Richard Shimmel and thanks him for his service dodging Japanese bombs across the Pacific, including his native Marshall Islands.

EFFORTS

Continued from page A1
it. Even though some pictures of Bethlehem Steel like Martin Tower are gone, the memory and stories of the Steel remain, preserved and maintained by organizations like the National Museum of Industrial History. In a real and tangible way the stories of our veterans can be preserved by rededicating this memorial and rededicating our efforts to remember and honor those who served."

Potsko continued, "We owe it to ourselves and our posterity to never forget the sacrifices of those who went before us. I was married not far from here, and shortly after exchanging our vows I got mobilized to war. Needless to say, my wife was worried about my safety. Several older members of our church comforted her, explaining, while they were worried for their husbands in 1944 when they were headed to Europe and the Pacific Rim, they eventually returned safe, and I would be no different."
He described the last century of the nation's



Master Sgt. Stephan Potsko receives a plaque from Lester Close, a former Green Beret.

wars being intertwined with the workers and production of the Bethlehem Steel Corp., concluding, "We must not allow the memory of these service members to slip out of our

nation's consciousness. We must never forget their actions, not just today, but every day, left a path for future generations to follow. Make it an honorable and well-traveled one."



Local resident Richard G. Shimmel was a radar operator in Hawaii in December 1944. He was the fifth person to learn of the approaching Japanese aircraft, but had no time for fear. He says, "We had one thing on our mind: To do our job."

State Rep. Mike Schlossberg presents Richard Shimmel with a certificate of thanks, while joking about the numerous times they've already met at similar events.



Former firefighter appeals dismissal

BY LAKISHA BONNELL
Special to the Bethlehem Press

Rich Rolan, former deputy fire chief, appealed his expulsion from the Fountain Hill Fire Department to borough council Nov. 2. He said he was removed from his position because he spoke at a pre-

vious meeting as a citizen, voicing safety concerns about the new fire truck.

Rolan said he was sent a text message informing him of his dismissal. He argued that this is above

the power of Fire Chief Derek Richmond to make this decision. He then listed his job accomplishments, including coordinating a fire truck appreciation parade for the

staff of St. Luke's and conducting drive-by birthday parties for kids during the pandemic. Rolan concluded his appeal by asking for reinstatement to the fire department.

Borough attorney Peter Lehr explained that

See HILL on Page A3

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NORTHAMPTON COUNTY

CORONER'S REPORT: As of Nov. 9, 299 COVID-19 deaths have been recorded by the Northampton County Coroner (268 residents/31 non-residents). An additional 55 deaths of Northampton County residents have been reported by the Lehigh County Coroner as of Sept. 28. Between the two counties, they have recorded 323 deaths of Northampton County residents from COVID-19.

A COVID-19 drive-through testing site is available at 3100 Emrick Blvd., Bethlehem Township. Hours of operation are Monday/Wednesday/Friday from 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. and Tuesday/Thursday from noon to 6 p.m. The site is open on every Saturday from 9 a.m. - noon. The drive-through testing center is located in the parking area to the rear of the Coordinated Health building and is separate from patient parking and routine patient care. The majority of patients tested at this site received their results in one to two days.

Demographic data for 299 deaths reported by the Northampton County Coroner

The ages of the deceased range from 29 to 106 years.
Average age of the deceased is 83.1 years
Gender - 53 percent Female, 47 percent Male
Race: 88 percent White, 6 percent African American, 2 percent Asian, 4 percent Hispanic

Demographic data for 55 deaths reported by the Lehigh County Coroner

The ages of the deceased range from 43 to 98 years.
Average age of the deceased is 77.3 years
Gender - 44 percent Female, 56 percent Male
Race: 80 percent White, 16 percent Hispanic, 2 percent African American, 2 percent Filipino, 0 percent Asian

PENNSYLVANIA

ANTIGEN TEST CARDS: The Wolf Administration has begun distribution of the fifth allotment of COVID-19 antigen test kits provided by the federal government to Clinical Laboratory Improvement Amendments (CLIA)-certified institutions in Armstrong, Dauphin, Delaware and Indiana counties.

Last week, 371,480 tests were distributed to 15 facilities in Elk, Lawrence, Mifflin and Philadelphia counties. Philadelphia distributed all 353,280 of their allotment during week four. Additional tests will be provided to health care providers in those counties in the coming weeks. Archived lists of distributions since week one can be found on the Department of Health's Coronavirus Symptoms & Testing webpage under the Antigen Tests subhead.

RESTAURANT INSPECTIONS: The Department of Agriculture has released data related to COVID-19 restaurant enforcement actions from Nov. 2 through 8. The information is specific to COVID-19 mitigation requirements for restaurants, including social distancing, masking, and occupancy limits.

These numbers include actions taken during routine food safety inspections and inspections prompted by consumer complaints.

From Nov. 2 through 8, the Bureau of Food Safety performed 675 total inspections, 20 of which were complaint-driven; 15 were COVID-19 specific complaints. The bureau distributed 35 COVID-19 complaint-driven educational letters. Eight COVID-19 related complaints were referred to local and county health jurisdictions. Five formal Warning Letters were issued. Two citations were filed.

A county by county breakdown of COVID-19 restaurant enforcement actions can be found on the Department of Agriculture's website. The data will be updated weekly, with data from the previous week.

PLCB ENFORCEMENT: Pennsylvania State Police Liquor Control Enforcement Officers visited 228 licensed liquor establishments from Nov. 13 through 15 to ensure businesses are abiding by COVID-19 mitigation requirements that include social distancing, masking, and other health and safety requirements of the liquor code.

Liquor Control Enforcement Officers issued 21 notices of violation and 34 warnings for failing to follow COVID-19 requirements.

Complaints regarding licensees not complying with COVID-19 mitigation mandates may be directed to the BLCE at 1-800-932-0602 or reported through the BLCE's online complaint form.

AROUND TOWN

Wednesday, November 18

Free, open to the public Zinzendorf exhibit, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Moravian Archives, 41 W. Locust St. about the visit of German count Nikolaus Ludwig von Zinzendorf (1700-1760) to America in 1741-1743. Sponsored by the German Consulate General New York. Many artifacts will be shown to the public for the first time. Due to COVID-related precautions, call ahead to reserve a time slot for a visit. Information and reservations: call 610-866-3255 or visit www.moravianchurcharchives.org.

November 19-21

Lehigh Valley Charter High School for the Arts (Charter Arts) annual Dance Soup concert, virtual performance beginning at 7 p.m. 65 plus students perform 24 solos and 11 ensemble pieces. Dance faculty member, Jennifer Weaver, director. For tickets to view the virtual show, visit www.CharterArts.org.

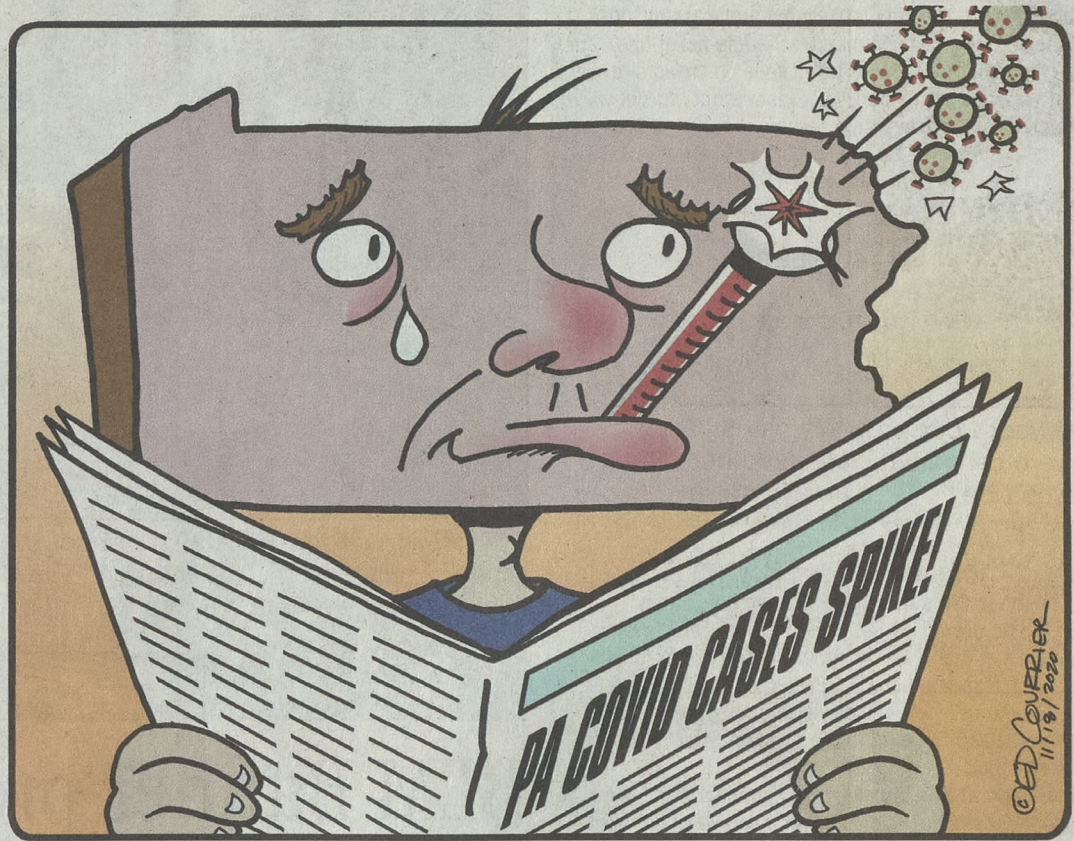
Sunday, November 22

Historic Bethlehem featured holiday artist Jim Lukens; preview reception. 2 to 8 p.m. 1869 Luckenbach Mill, 459 Old York Road. 20-minute time slots available. Follow safety protocols; masks, social distancing; hand washing. Call Adelle Mantle at 610-882-0450, ext. 25.

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ANOTHER VIEW - ED'S WORLD

Graphic commentary by Ed Courier



Dr. Levine: 'Please answer the call'

BY NATE JASTRZEMSKI
njastzowski@tronline.com

State Secretary of Health Dr. Rachel Levine answered media questions in a videoconference last week, explaining what she feels will be helpful and why this winter surge will be different from the one in spring.

Levine was adamant that rumors that, despite increasing numbers of cases, the virus has somehow decreased in severity are untrue.

She said medical staff are now highly experienced in dealing with this virus, and new therapeutics are available, such as remdesivir, dexamethasone, monoclonal antibodies

and ongoing studies in convalescent plasma. Pennsylvania is far better stocked with PPE today, and whereas the national average for the most severe COVID-19 victims requiring ventilators is 12 percent, in Pa. they are only 9 percent. This is down from 30 percent in the spring.

The virus isn't less severe, Levine said; care has gotten much better in Pa. She said, "You want to see an increase? Go to Wisconsin. Well, don't go to Wisconsin, we don't want you to travel."

She also said part of fighting further outbreaks is gathering data. Efforts with contact tracing have

been hindered by a lack of cooperation with contact tracers. "Overall we are continuing to be challenged in terms of people answering the phone and people being forthcoming in where they are, where they have been and who their contacts are. She also asks for more people to download the COVID Alert PA application on their mobile phones.

In both doing your part in regular mitigation efforts such as wearing a mask and distancing and responding to requests for information from the state, Levine asks, "Please answer the call."

When asked about privacy concerns, she said

the application doesn't use tracking technology, but Bluetooth technology the way you connect to your headphones in your car. "We are not tracking your whereabouts. We are looking for a million people do download the app, which will tell them automatically if they've been in contact with someone who has tested positive."

As of Monday, the state has 248,981 confirmed COVID-19 cases and 9,312 deaths. Lehigh County has 8,637 confirmed and 374 deaths; Northampton County has 6,842 confirmed and 322 deaths; the city of Bethlehem has 2,161 confirmed and 84 deaths.

HILL

Continued from page A2

council has not before exercised the ordinance to interfere with decisions made by the fire department. Lehr told Rolen they were not in a formal appeal hearing and that council cannot render a formal appeal of the dismissal.

Rolen then requested such and Lehr told him council has not exercised the authority to overturn dismissal decisions in recent years. He then advised council not to exercise any rights under the borough ordinance and see it as a separate entity.

The issue was then offered for any additional comments, where a few attendees made arguments for Rolen to be reinstated, while others advised that further steps should have been taken before the dismissal of Rolen. Council accepted Lehr's advice and chose not to interfere with the decision. Rolen concluded his statement by announcing he will be



Fountain Hill Council meeting participants (top) Will Rufe, Helen Halleman, Annmarie Jordan, Jamie Johnson, (middle) Al Abrecht, Debbie Spadaccia, Mike Langton, (bottom) Peter Lehr and Doug Trotter.

seeking legal counsel.

In his report, Police Chief Ed Bachert said they must have distributed over 100 pounds of candy, and then recommended Matthew Devers as a part-time police officer. The motion passed.

In new business, Manager Anthony Branco presented council with the PennDOT maintenance agreement to ad-

just Americans with Disabilities Act ramps as part of the \$1 million grant project to pave Broadway from Route 378 to Salisbury Township. The motion passed.

Former member Norman Black was confirmed to fill a council vacancy. Lehr recommended that with a full board, it was time to fill Leo Atkinson's open president seat, as he

resigned in October because he disagreed with a rising police budget. Council members agreed.

Public Works committee member Annmarie Jordan announced that the library will soon open for limited browsing, while the use of computers will be by appointment only.

The next meeting is scheduled for Nov. 18.

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Thursday, Nov. 19 - Sunday, Nov. 22

Huts on Main 2020, 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Main Street Historic Downtown Bethlehem.

Christkindlmarkt at SteelStacks, 101 Founders Way. Follow safety protocols; masks, social distancing; hand washing. Visit www.christmascity.org/christkindlmarkt/schedule-ticket-info/ for hours, costs, vendors. Due to state restrictions on crowd size, per session per day tickets are limited. Walkups without a ticket will only be permitted to buy tickets to a session that has not reached its capacity limit. Thursdays: 10 a.m.-6 p.m. (last entry at 4:30 p.m.); Fridays: 10 a.m.-8 p.m. (last entry at 6:30 p.m.); Saturdays: 10 a.m.-8 p.m. (last entry at 6:30 p.m.); Sundays: 10 a.m.-6 p.m. (last entry at 4:30 p.m.)

Sunday, November 22

Historic Bethlehem preview reception featuring holiday artist Jim Lukens. 2 to 8 p.m. 1869 Luckenbach Mill, 459 Old York Road. 20-minute time slots available. Follow safety protocols; masks, social distancing; hand washing. Call Adelle Mantle at 610-882-0450, ext. 25, for reservations.

Thursday, November 26

Thanksgiving

Friday, Nov. 27 through Sunday, Nov. 29

Virtual Christmas City's tree lighting ceremony, 5 p.m. More details will be posted on Facebook and the Lehigh Valley Chamber websites and at www.christmascity.org/events/christmas-city-tree-lighting-ceremony-2/. Presented by the Bethlehem Chamber of Commerce, www.lehighvalleychamber.org/.

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Through November 30

Historic Bethlehem Museums and Sites 18th annual virtual historic Turkey Trot. 5k run and fun walk anytime. Information, registration: visit www.HistoricBethlehem.org.

MEETING BOARD

Wednesday, November 18

NorCo Personnel and Finance Committee and Industrial Development, 4 p.m. Northampton Co. Courthouse, 669 Washington St., Easton

NorCo Capital Projects & Operations Committee, 5:30 p.m. Northampton Co. Courthouse, 669 Washington St., Easton.

Fountain Hill Borough Council, 7 p.m. 941 Long St. Hellertown Borough Zoning Hearing, 6:30 p.m., 685 Main St.

Thursday, November 19

Northampton Co. Energy, Environment and Land Use Committee, 5 p.m., Northampton Co. Courthouse, 669 Washington St., Easton.

Northampton County Council virtual meeting, 6:30 p.m., first and third Thursday of every month. Northampton Co. Courthouse, 669 Washington St., Easton, until further notice. The public may join live streamed meetings by calling 610-829-6605 and entering Conference ID: 6514572. Questions or comments from the public may also be e-mailed to lzembo@northamptoncounty.org. For agenda, further details, visit County Council webpage at www.northamptoncounty.org.

Monday, November 23

BASD regular board, 7 p.m. East Hills MS auditorium, 2005 Chester Road.

Bethlehem Twp. Planning Commission, 7 p.m. Municipal building, 4225 Easton Ave.

Tuesday, November 24

Hanover Twp. Supervisors, 7 p.m. 3630 Jacksonville Road. Freemansburg Borough Zoning, 7 p.m. As needed.

Lehigh Co. Commissioners, 6:30 p.m. Public hearing room, Gov't. Center, 17 S. Seventh St., Allentown.

Wednesday, November 25

Bethlehem Parking Authority, 4 p.m. 85 W. North St. Bethlehem Twp. Zoning Hearing Board, 6:30 p.m. Municipal building, 4225 Easton Ave.

Thursday, November 26 - Thanksgiving

Most government offices and other buildings closed.

Friday, November 27

Some government offices closed

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HOLIDAY FREE FOOD

Saturday, November 21

Crosspoint, free food boxes, perishable and non-perishable, 10:15 a.m. while supplies last at 1414 Pennsylvania Ave. Call 618-866-1388 or visit www.crosspoint.life for information.

Thursday, November 26

Pat's Pizza and Bistro, one per person free meals for 200 locals in need. Beginning at 11 a.m. at 1426 W. Broad St. First come, first served while supplies last. Limited amount of deliveries; visit www.PatsBistro.com or <https://m.facebook.com/patspizza-bethlehem/>.

Emmanuel EC Church

Primary address - 75 East Union Boulevard Bethlehem, Pennsylvania, 18018 610-868-3595

Both free food (so a family can make their own meal), as well as Easter, Thanksgiving, and Christmas dinners are served. Anyone can drop in for help.

New Bethany Ministries - Thanksgiving Meal

Main address is 341 West Fourth St. Bethlehem, PA, 18015 610-691-5602 x210

New Bethany Ministries celebrates Thanksgiving providing dinner to .. decorate our Soup-Kitchen to welcome the homeless, hungry poor and mentally ill. <https://newbethanyministries.org/>

The Salvation Army - Bethlehem Corps in Northampton County also offers many of the same assistance programs. Shelter, a thrift store, Angel Tree and Christmas toys, and more. A leading charity for the region, the location is 521 Pembroke Road, Bethlehem, 18018. Main number - 610-432-0128.

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Members of the Poor People's Moral Action Congress by their table of handouts. From left are Nancy Weston, Rev. Elizabeth Hoffman Reed, Beth Taylor and Karen Hicks.

BLM Banner proudly waves at UUCLV

BY ED COURRIER
Special to the Bethlehem Press

A new banner has been hoisted at the Unitarian Universalist Church of The Lehigh Valley at 424 Center St. "Today we are dedicating this 'Black Lives Matter' flag as a symbol of our commitment to learning and educating ourselves about the Black Lives Matter movement," declared Nancy Weston at the Oct. 11 outdoor ceremony, attended by nearly 40 people.

The event was emceed by Weston, co-chair of the UUCLV Social Action Committee, on the church steps. She explained how the death of George Floyd at the hands of a Minneapolis, Minnesota policeman "appalled" members of the UUCLV. This reported killing of an unarmed black man by a white police officer prompted the church's Social Action Committee to speak out against racial injustice.

Committee co-chair Karen Hicks, guest speakers, plus several black and white members of the congregation, took turns affirming support for the African-American community during the ceremony.

"We bless it with our words. We bless it with our actions," said UUCLV Rev. Madelyn Campbell as she dedicated the new flag.

The Rev. Elizabeth Hoffman Reed encouraged the audience to "Accountably dismantle racism and other oppressions in ourselves and in our institutions." Hoffman is one of several members of the Poor People's Moral Action Congress, a national advocacy group, at the dedication.

"Let this moment not fade," said Sharon A. Brown from the Resurrected Life Church in



PRESS PHOTOS BY ED COURRIER

The "Black Lives Matter" flag joins the "Rainbow" banner at the corner of UUCLV church building at 424 Center St.



Bethlehem-based fiber artist Barbara Schulman with "The Black Plague" (2020, bleached jeans and dyed cotton, painted, quilted, machine stitched, 60 inch by 66 inch).



Gray Simpson leads those gathered in singing "Lift Every Voice and Sing."

Allentown. She added, "Let this moment be the beginning of a revolutionary act where all who are gathered, stay the course!"

Vassar graduate Renee Bryant described her experiences dealing with racism while growing up as a black child and later as a college student. She recently joined the church's Social Action Committee.

UUCLV member Shamell Brandon provided his African-American perspective on the Black Lives Matter movement with a series of questions like, "Am I willing to donate my certainty in exchange for learning?"

"Together we commit! Together we act!" chanted the crowd as Beth Taylor led them in a call-and-response oath for "creating a future marked by justice."

In addition to the flag dedication, Bethlehem-based fiber artist Barbara Schulman unveiled her creative tribute to the BLM cause. She began working on "The Black Plague" (2020, bleached jeans and dyed cotton, painted, quilted, machine stitched, 60 inches by 66 inches) the day after Floyd's on-camera killing.

Painted throughout the somber quilt are nearly 300 names of black and brown citizens who had lost their lives in confrontations with law enforcement. Breonna Taylor, Elijah McClain and Tamir Rice are just a few of the more well-known victims.

Gray Simpson, a youth in the church choir, led those gathered in singing "Lift Every Voice and Sing" by James Weldon Johnson and John Rosamond Johnson. The hymn is also known as the "Black national anthem."



Vassar graduate Renee Bryant describes her experiences dealing with racism while growing up and in college.



"We bless it with our words. We bless it with our actions," says UUCLV Rev. Madelyn Campbell as she dedicates the new flag.



Shamell Brandon provides his perspective on the Black Lives Matter movement.



"Let this moment not fade," says speaker Sharon A. Brown from the Resurrected Life Church in Allentown.

Wind Creek hotel, water park plans remain on hold

BY ED COURRIER

Special to the Bethlehem Press

The Mayor's South Side Task Force moved indoors for their monthly gathering Oct. 27 to the cozy community room at Five10 Flats. The Sept. 29 meeting had been held outdoors at the Bethlehem Skateplaza, while dodging spotted lanternflies.

The October gathering was hosted by former Bethlehem Mayor John Callahan, who is currently director of business development for Peron Development.

Callahan presented circa 1940s photos of the neighborhood to discuss the challenges of developing urban areas and

SOUTH SIDE TASK FORCE

former brownfields. To illustrate this, he produced an aerial view of the block Five10 Flats is built on. Among the structures that had previously occupied the block before Bethlehem Steel razed them and paved it over for parking, was a large fuel storage tank. Callahan explained the bottom portion of that tank, containing sludge, still lurked under the asphalt lot when construction began on the new residential-over-retail complex.

A short tour of the Five10 Flats was offered

by Callahan following the meeting.

Mayor's South Side Task Force Chairman Roger Hudak opined that lack of parking south of the Lehigh River may stifle future development. He said that before the city can begin to build the planned Polk Street garage, maintenance issues need to be addressed first at the Walnut Street Garage.

Plans for Wind Creek to erect a new hotel and construction on a new water park are still "on hold," according to Hudak.

The chairman

brought up that the former saints Peter and Paul Byzantine Catholic Church property on East Fifth Street appears to be in the process of being converted into a homeless shelter and soup kitchen.

Adrienne McNeil from Lehigh University said the college is partially open now. Access to the libraries is available to all university students, but not yet for the general public. She added Lehigh will close the week before Thanksgiving and not reopen for the spring term until Feb. 1, 2021.

According to Stephanie Augello from the See **PLANS** on Page A6



PRESS PHOTOS BY ED COURRIER

Mayor's South Side Task Force Chairman Roger Hudak describes the need for more parking for the Southside. Adrienne McNeil from Lehigh University is at right.

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PLANS

Continued from page A5

mayor's office, the Bethlehem Health Bureau will be offering free drive-thru flu shots Nov. 14 at East Hills MS and Dec. 8 at Riverport.

She talked about how the city spent \$150,000 helping businesses stay open. Augello announced that newly-appointed Police Chief Michelle Kott will be meeting soon with members of the public to help build trust between officers and those they serve.

While praising the city and local civic organizations for effectively See **PLANS** on Page A7



Former Bethlehem mayor John Callahan presents circa 1940s views of W. Third Street to members of the Mayor's South Side Task Force.



State Rep. Steve Samuelson (D) announces the state legislature will be working on the budget in November, as only a partial one had been worked out so far.



"We keep things calm," says Lehigh University Police Captain Rich McGarr as he speaks about ongoing patrols around the off-campus student housing areas near the university.



Lehigh Patrol Officer Lora Martin says the campus police still plan to continue their "Shop with a Lehigh Cop" program this year.

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PLANS

Continued from page A6
preparing for the 2020 U.S. Census, Augello lamented the U.S. Supreme Court's decision to end it early. She reported that 71.1 percent of Bethlehem residents self-responded, which is a higher percentage than the Pennsylvania state average of 69.6 percent and the national average of 67 percent. The pandemic had delayed door-to-door canvassing of neighborhoods by three months.

Augello said the Bethlehem Service Center can be reached at 610-

865-7000 or via email at bethlehemservicecenter@bethlehem-pa.gov for residents who wish to report non-emergency issues.

State Rep. Steve Samuelson (D) mentioned his office is still processing state rent and property tax rebates. He announced the state legislature will be working on the budget in November, as only a partial one had been worked out during the summer, with funding running out Nov. 30. "Mitch McConnell adjourned the Senate until November," said Samuelson. If the U.S. Senate doesn't

come to an agreement for a second round of stimulus funding by the end of November, the state legislature may need to pass yet another temporary budget, Samuelson speculated.

He also mentioned that he had earlier voted against legislation that would have "suppressed the vote," including the elimination of mail-in ballot drop off boxes.

Lehigh Patrol Officer Lora Martin said the campus police still plan to continue their "Shop with a Lehigh Cop" program this year. To adhere to COVID-19 guidelines, the gifts will

be dropped off at the recipients' homes.

"We keep things calm," said Lehigh University Police Captain Rich McGarr as he spoke about ongoing patrols around the off-campus student housing areas near the university. The university police work closely with city police in a program to keep parties under control. This is funded by a state liquor control grant.

The Mayor's South Side Task Force meets regularly on the last Tuesday of the month.

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Celebrating the Great People of The Lehigh Valley

PRESS PHOTO BY JIM MARSH

Bill & Christine Hankee, of Germansville, hold a photo of their late daughter, Krysta, who collapsed and died in 2007, at the age of 22, while working out at a gym in New York City before work. Krysta's parents formed a memorial foundation after her death to reflect their daughter's "How can I help you" attitude. Since its formation in 2007, the memorial foundation has raised and dispersed more than \$400,000 in charitable donations.

Learn more about Bill and Christine Hankee in the Community Partner feature in next week's paper.

PRESENTED BY

Lehigh Valley Health Network

Book sale total for 2020: \$15,814



PRESS PHOTO BY DANA GRUBB

In 2020 the Bethlehem Area Public Library was only able to hold one of its traditional inside book sales, in January, before the pandemic closed and later limited operations. In place of the normal format, four drive-up book sales were held in front of the main branch, where New and Church streets intersect. The fourth and final drive-up sale was held Nov. 7, earning the library an additional \$1,388, which brought total book sale proceeds to \$15,814 for 2020. Book sale coordinator Laurel Stone says weather and the COVID virus will determine when the next sale can be held in 2021. **Above:** Book sale coordinator Laurel Stone sorts the bags of books by genre as she prepares for the Nov. 7 drive-up book sale.

CENTER FOR ANIMAL HEALTH & WELFARE

Animals are available for adoption at the Center for Animal Health & Welfare no-kill shelter, 1165 Island Park Road, Easton. The shelter is working to end pet overpopulation by running a clinic so animals can be spayed or neutered before they go home. For more information, call 610-252-7722 or visit www.healthyanimalcenter.org.



Gato is a 2-year-old male looking for a quiet home to give him time and space to adjust to his new environment. Once comfortable, Gato loves to show you his toys, talk about his day, and ask for affection.



Leo is a 9-year-old pittie mix looking for a nice, quiet home to spend his golden years in. Leo would do best in a home with adults only, even though he is kid-friendly. He would also prefer to be the only dog.

VOLUNTEERS

A full calendar appears on the Bethlehem Press website

BIG BROTHERS BIG SISTERS LEHIGH VALLEY is looking for compassionate and energetic volunteers to become 'Bigs' for youth ages seven to 16 in Lehigh and Northampton counties. Matches typically meet twice a month and can participate in activities that they are most interested in. Orientation, interview, references and clearances are required, and a commitment to being matched with your Little for at least one year. Contact David DeLaRosa, dela-rosa@bbbslv.org.

CEDARBROOK SENIOR CARE AND REHAB, Fountain Hill and Allentown is looking to the community to help brighten the day of residents who have been unable to have visitors or social programming these past several months. Inspirational (non-religious) cards and letters created by youth or adults would be a welcome addition to everyone's day! Dedicated staff would also enjoy notes of thanks! Mail items to the attention of Kerry Magliane, Cedarbrook Senior Care & Rehab, 350 S. Cedarbrook Road, Allentown, PA 18104.

HISTORIC BETHLEHEM MUSEUMS & SITES - Help celebrate a historic holiday season Thursday through Sunday, from Nov. 6 through Dec. 30. Shifts run 2-5 p.m. and 5-8 p.m. Volunteers are needed for the family-friendly outdoor activities to help with greeting guests, information and directions, store assistants, crafts and activities, gallery watcher, cottage and parking attendants. Call Keith Sten, 610-691-6055, ksten@historicbethlehem.org.

HOLIDAY HOPE CHESTS needs volunteers to donate wrapped shoeboxes filled with age appropriate items for Lehigh Valley's children in need. Suggested gift lists are provided on our website. This program, coordinated by the Volunteer Center, is a great project for large/small groups, clubs, classes, families, and individuals. To participate, go to www.volunteerlv.org/holiday-hope-chests and fill out a 2020 Donor Pledge Form. Opportunity to collect and wrap empty shoeboxes, too.

INDEPENDENT TRANSPORTATION NETWORK LEHIGH VALLEY provides 24/7 door through door ride service for seniors age 60 and over and visually impaired adults to any destination in the Lehigh Valley. In order to provide this service, volunteer drivers are needed to help us with the increasing demand for rides. All rides in Lehigh Valley only. Drive when and where you want. No minimum hours required. Must have own vehicle and clean driving record. Contact Jessie Shappell, 610-419-1645, jessie.shappell@tnlehighvalley.org.

MILLER KEYSTONE BLOOD CENTER, Easton is currently looking for reliable volunteers to prescreen donors at donor centers in Easton 10 a.m.-1 p.m. on select Saturdays. This opportunity consists of asking donors 3-4 questions that are COVID19 related and taking a forehead temperature. This is an ongoing opportunity. You must be over 18 years of age. They cannot accommodate community service hours requests. Contact Kathy Hoy, 610-691-5850, khoy@giveapint.org.

NORTHEAST COMMUNITY CENTER, Bethlehem needs tutors at the center for their Virtual Support Program 9 a.m. - noon Tuesday through Friday to assist children with assignments, homework, school projects, reading and math and can participate as little as one time per week or as often as the program meets. Background checks and face masks are required, along with daily temperature check. Contact Jackie Jimenez, 610-691-3355, jjimenez@necbethlehem.org.

THE WHOLE LIFE CENTER, Easton, needs a volunteer 10 or 10:30 a.m. to approximately 1 or 2 p.m. weekly on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays and every other Wednesday at its pantry location in Easton. Volunteer will supervise, assign and coordinate with daily volunteers, and assist the director with a variety of administrative work. It would be a plus to be able to drive a box truck to pick up food from Sam's Club, help unload, weigh and on different days deliver the food to other organizations in the Easton area. Contact Donna Lavin, 610-746-6405, donna@wholelifectr.org.

THE CENTER FOR ANIMAL HEALTH AND WELFARE, Easton, is seeking volunteers to walk dogs, assist with a.m. cleanings, attend off site events to promote the shelter, cat and dog enrichment and general shelter help. If interested in helping, please contact Walt Hoffman at 610-252-7722 ext 4 or email cahwvolunteercoordinator@rcn.com.

Volunteer Center to receive a brochure listing agencies in need of volunteers at 610-807-0336 or e-mail: vc@volunteerlv.org. Visit our website www.volunteerlv.org for a larger listing of volunteer opportunities.

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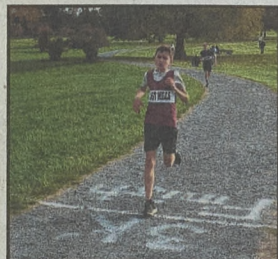
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INSIDE
SPORTS



CROSS COUNTRY
A look at the results from the boys and girls middle school races.

A10



SOCCER
Another Bethlehem Soccer Club team won a division title.

A10

▼ **THEY SAID IT**

"To come out and execute in all three phases is what we practice every week and it was nice to see that all come together this week. We've been playing assignment sound football from the beginning and our confidence is growing each

Jason Roeder

▼ **BRIEFLY**

YOUTH RESULTS

The Press family of newspapers would love to print youth results from any teams and leagues in our coverage area.

This is especially true as youth sports look to return during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Unfortunately, when it comes to youth results we depend on parents and coaches to keep us informed.

If you're interested in getting your team results printed in the Press, please contact Scott Pagel at spagel@tnonline.com.

When submitting results, you don't even have to be a writer, just the basics like score and game highlights need to be included. We'll be happy to turn the information into write-ups.



PRESS PHOTOS BY MARK KIRLIN

Freedom quarterback Ethan Neidig looks to stay on his feet against Easton.

Freedom heads to finals

BY PETER CAR
pcar@tnonline.com

If there was any lesson that Freedom taught District 11 last weekend, it's to never doubt the Patriots on the gridiron. Freedom had their way with Easton in the District 11 6A semifinals, coasting to a 37-7 victory at BASD Stadium and finding themselves in this Friday's 7 p.m. championship contest against top-seeded Nazareth at Whitehall.

It marks the fourth time in five years that the Patriots (5-1) find themselves playing for the district championship, winning the title in 2018.

Nazareth (6-0), the defending 6A champions, are the only team to knock off Freedom this year, winning 21-7 on October 16.

It'll be a matchup against two of the best programs in the area this weekend and it's exactly what head coach Jason Roeder and his team have wanted.

"The goal is to not just contend for them, but win them," said Roeder about being in the

championship game again. "We're going to do everything in power to get our guys ready to play this weekend."

Roeder's message was simple and concise to his team after they thoroughly defeated Easton last week and that was to make sure they prioritized the team this week in lead up to the championship.

With COVID spiking across the country and examples of District 11 teams abandoning their playoff hopes because of the virus, the priority this week, for any schools still alive in the tournament, is to stay safe to keep playing.

The Patriots earned that right after junior Deante Crawford ran for 203 yards and three touchdowns in relief of injured senior running back Matt Russin. The Pates dominated the battle up front on both sides of the ball en route to a 23-0 halftime lead.

Things got even worse for Easton on their opening play of the second half, when Jalen Fletcher picked up a fumble and went 21



Deante Crawford breaks free during the Patriots victory over Easton in the District 11 semifinals.

yards for a score. "To come out and execute in all three phases is what we practice every week and it was nice to see that all come together this week," Roeder said. "We've been playing assignment sound football from the beginning and our confidence is growing each week."

Nazareth hasn't played since November 9, when they toppled Pleasant Valley 56-10 in their district open-

er. The Blue Eagles had off last week because of Stroudsburg and Parkland bowing out of the tournament for COVID related reasons, so they should be fresh and primed after watching Freedom run demolition over the Rovers (4-4).

In their first encounter, quarterback Ethan Neidig was getting his first varsity start for the Patriots of the season, as they were held scoreless through 43 minutes of that affair.

Freedom ran for 123 yards in their previous outing and that number will have to increase in order to keep up with the Nazareth offense that saw quarterback Matt Bugbee throw for 226 yards and two scores last time.

However, if Freedom can match its line play from a week ago, busting their own running game and making Bugbee uncomfortable, the Pates have a path towards flipping the script.

Becahi falls to Central Catholic

BY JEFF MOELLER
Special to the Press

Bethlehem Catholic quickly discovered that the second time around wasn't going to be the charm.

The Golden Hawks, who lost to Allentown Central Catholic 35-3 a few weeks ago, couldn't return the favor against them in a 38-17 defeat in a District 11 Class 4A semifinal game last Friday night at J. Birney Crum Stadium.

Becahi was coming off an impressive 17-0 shutout of Blue Moun-

tain last week in a district quarterfinal.

This time, Central Catholic broke the game open with a 53-yard punt return and an eight-yard fumble recovery for scores after they held a 21-3 advantage with Becahi still within striking distance.

Central Catholic was again paced by running back Jayden Williams ran for 170 yards and scored three touchdowns, and quarterback Matt Rauscher was a perfect 7-for-7 passing with 52 yards and ran

for 47.

The defeat ended the Golden Hawks season with a 4-4 mark, while Central Catholic will meet Northwestern in the District 11 Class 4A final Thursday evening at Whitehall High School.

"Those hurt us," said Becahi head coach Joe Heinrich. "We knew we would have trouble with Williams and Rauscher."

"We battled throughout and we had a good effort during the season."

Rafi Harrington led Becahi with 66 yards

rushing, and quarterback Luke Thomas threw for 32 yards. Harrington scored on a 58-yard run.

Thomas, a sophomore who replaced injured starter Jared Richardson and also started at safety all season, will be back next season. Richardson, a junior also will be back in the fold. Thomas had the Golden Hawks' other touchdown, a six-yard run.

Anthony Barczynski accounted for their other points on a 30-yard field goal.

Harrington and Rahmel Terry will be back in the backfield for the Golden Hawks.

The Golden Hawks had a roller coaster season, beginning with a 42-7 win over Bangor and then suffered a 21-0 loss to Nazareth. They bounced back to defeat Liberty, 42-17, and blanked Easton, 7-0.

They were blitzed 45-0 by Freedom before their final meeting with Central Catholic and Blue Mountain.

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CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

BSC U9 Girls Unbeaten, Win Division

In their first season of travel soccer, the Bethlehem Soccer Club's U9 girls team went unbeaten in the Lehigh Valley Youth Soccer League. Their final game was Saturday, Nov. 14, on the road at Lower Mac, which resulted in win number-eight to end with a perfect, 8-0-0 mark. Some key wins included Back Mountain, which finished 7-1-0 and in second place, as well as the Sting, who went 6-2-0 and finished in third place. Even more impressive, the BSC U9 girls scored 48 goals while allowing only four scored against them for the entire season.



PRESS PHOTO BY KATIE MCDONALD

Brady Sutton took first place in the boys middle school race.

East Hill's Sutton wins MS boys race

BY KATIE MCDONALD
kmcaldonald@tnonline.com

East Hills Middle School's Brady Sutton was the winner of the Bethlehem Area School District middle school boys cross country race on Oct. 19 at Louise Moore Park in Lower Nazareth/Easton.

Sutton's time in the 3k race was 11:37.

Nitschmann's David Myers came in second with a time of 11:42.

Alex Reeder from East Hills placed third with a time of 12:03.

Other competitors, in order of finish were Simon Hume (East Hills) 12:23; Conner Terefinke (Nitschmann) 12:36;

Gavin Colcasi (East Hills) 12:49; Casey Huie (Northeast) 12:55; Ben Soleymani (East Hills) 12:59; Ryan Haas (East Hills) 13:22; Ben Myers (Nitschmann) 13:39; Liam Kurtz (East Hills) 13:55; Anthony Crisafulli (East Hills) 13:59; Carl Fair (Northeast) 14:06; Roberto DeJesus (Broughal) 14:19; Terrence Burns (Broughal) 14:24; Max Landis (Northeast) 14:28; Ethan Caine (Nitschmann) 14:28; Nathaniel Sullivan (Nitschmann) 14:45; Matthew Heineman (East Hills) 14:55; Infinite Chiu (East Hills) 15:08; Levi Carolan (Northeast) 15:10; Edward Powers (Nitschmann) 16:27; Jalen King (Nitschmann) 16:43; Stephen Luissner (Nitschmann) 16:45; Deon Davis (Northeast) 17:03; Zachary Banttari (Northeast) 17:17; Brady Vandever (Northeast) 17:21; Gavin Bailey (Nitschmann) 17:40; Deron Cuadrado (Northeast) 17:44; Damian Lopez (Broughal) 19:47; Lazarus Lopez (Broughal) 20:30; Santiago Diaz (Nitschmann) 20:42; Owen Fuller (Northeast) 21:02.

The meet was conducted by Liberty High School's cross country team.

East Hill's Brame wins MS girls race

BY KATIE MCDONALD
kmcaldonald@tnonline.com

East Hills Middle School's Aliyah Brame was the winner of the Bethlehem Area School District middle school girls cross country race on Oct. 19 at Louise Moore Park in Lower Nazareth/Easton.

Brame's time in the 3k race was 13:21.

Amelia Holden, also from East Hills, came in second with a time of 13:25.

Northeast's Lilah McClarin placed third with a time of 13:37.

Other competitors, in order of finish were Bailey Barber (East Hills) 14:41; Kritzie Diaz Rivera (Broughal) 15:08; Kendelle Terefinke (Nitschmann) 15:08; Brooke Rummel (East Hills) 15:58; Emily Orrico (Nitschmann) 16:11; Danni Herman (East Hills) 16:46; Isabella Pitsilos (East Hills) 16:48; Mia Napolitanal (East Hills) 16:53; Emma Haas (Nitschmann) 17:36; Dianna Carreon



PRESS PHOTO BY KATIE MCDONALD

Aliyah Brame took first in the girls race.

(Northeast) 18:04; Armany Johnson (Broughal) 19:16; Aliah Ramautr (Nitschmann) 20:37; Addysun Munro (Nitschmann) 21:13; Jaylynn Holderman (Northeast) 21:15; Madisyn Bonna (Northeast) 21:15; Vanessa Rodriguez (Northeast) 26:04.

The meet was conducted by Liberty High School's cross country team.

EPC announces winter schedule

BY PETER CAR
pcar@tnonline.com

The East Penn Conference announced their plans for the winter season and they fall under the same format that worked well during the fall season.

Teams will be split into geographic divisions by counties and conference play will remain within the division. With winter practices set to begin on November 20, here's what the winter looks like for EPC schools.

The three divisions are as followed: Lehigh: Allen, CCHS, Emmaus, Parkland and Whitehall; Northampton: Becahi, Easton, Freedom, Liberty, Nazareth and Northampton; Monroe: ES North, ES South, Pleasant Valley, PM East, PM West and Stroudsburg.

In boys and girls basketball, di-

visional teams will play each other three times for a total of 15 contests.

In swimming, teams will see each other twice for 10 meets and wrestling will follow the same format as swimming for a total of 10 matches.

The basketball schedule begins on December 15 and runs through December 23 before a lengthy lay-off, as the schedule won't ramp up again until January 15th.

Swimming will follow the same date pattern as basketball, while the wrestling season gets underway a day later on December 16 and re-starts on January 14th.

In basketball, swimming and wrestling, Liberty opens up with a series against Nazareth, while Becahi opens with Easton and Freedom gets Northampton.

The only difference in the schedule is in swimming, where Becahi doesn't have a program.

LVP/LVHN ATHLETE

☆☆☆ OF THE WEEK ☆☆☆



#LVHNathleteoftheweek

Congratulations CHAD BELLER, Catasauqua Football

Freshman linebacker Chad Beller helped Catasauqua to their first District 11 football win since 2013 as the Roughies traveled to Minersville on November 7 and won 31-12. Beller had two interceptions in the game, among the six total the team collected in the victory. Beller's second interception was returned 50 yards for a touchdown that helped to clinch the victory for the Rough Riders.

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NASCAR THIS WEEK

QUESTIONS & ATTITUDES

NBC says its numbers didn't drop from 2019. Is that good news?

Since no one knows exactly how to measure what the sports world has gone through this year, let's go with the obvious: When in doubt, treading water is acceptable. Overall, the ratings probably should've been higher when NASCAR was the only game in town, and probably could've been lower when all of the abnormal competition arrived from baseball, basketball and hockey, followed by the usual football battle for viewers. NBC did announce a 29% increase in its streaming numbers, but since that's over our heads here, we'll just take their word for it and call that a positive.

Southwest Florida? Who knew?

NBC's market-by-market numbers produced no surprises — the top four markets were from the Carolinas and Tennessee, with the reliable Indianapolis market at No. 5, followed by Richmond and ... yes, Fort Myers-Naples, the only Florida market in the top 10. You would expect the Panhandle, or maybe Jacksonville, or of course the Orlando-Daytona market, but Fort Myers-Naples screams golf and tennis. You just never know.



NBC got a late-season boost with Chase Elliott's championship run at Phoenix. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

DAYTONA MOTOR MOUTHS

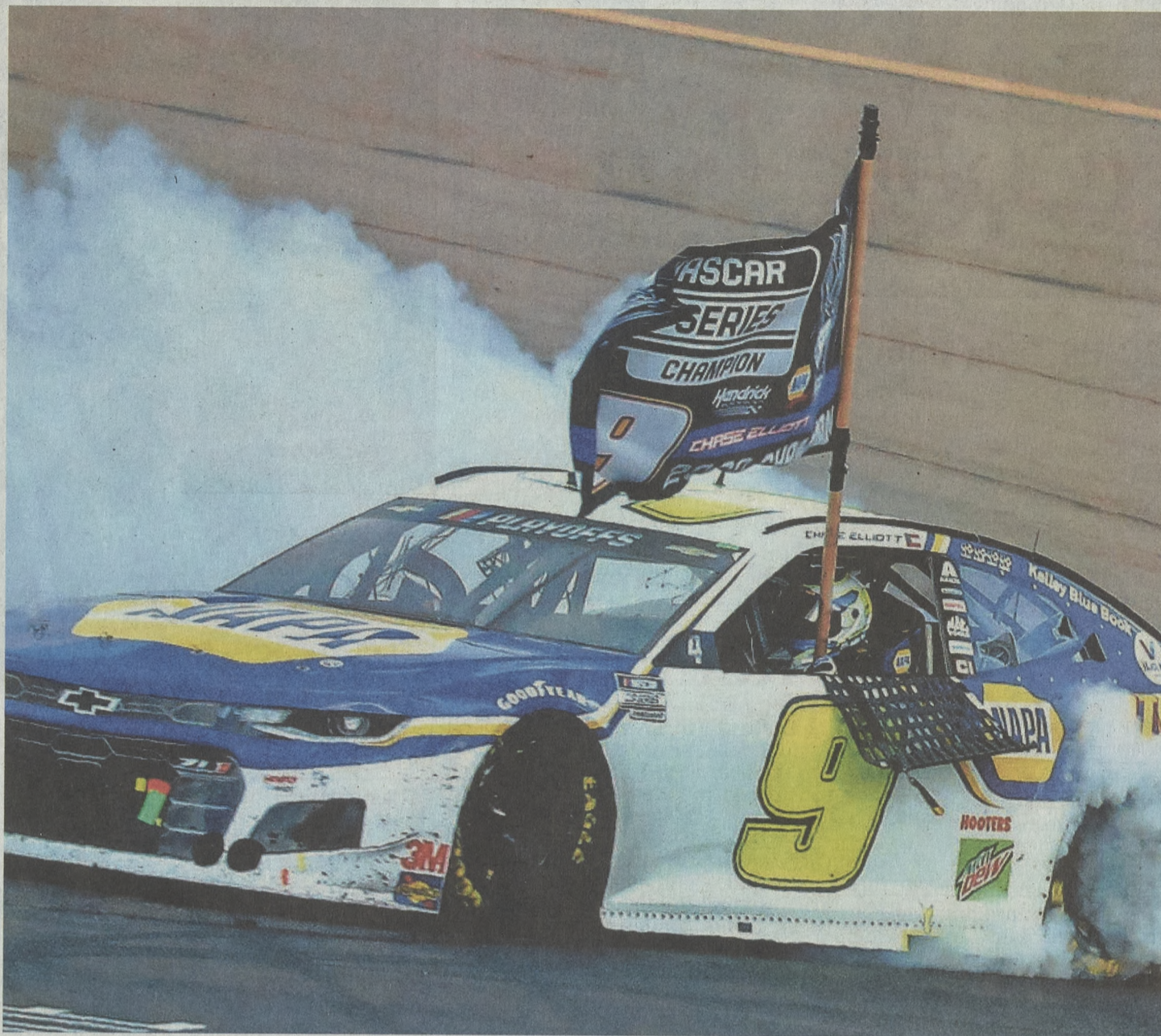
Ladies and Gentlemen, the offseason is now officially open for practice and qualifying (from the couches and barstools).



2021 CUP SERIES SCHEDULE

- Feb. 9: Busch Clash at Daytona
- Feb. 14: Daytona 500
- Feb. 21: Homestead
- Feb. 28: Fontana
- March 7: Las Vegas
- March 14: Phoenix
- March 21: Atlanta
- March 28: Bristol (dirt)
- April 10: Martinsville

THROUGH THE GEARS



Chase Elliott celebrates his championship at Phoenix and the dawn of a new stock-car era. ANDREW COPPLEY/HHP FOR CHEVY RACING

NASCAR'S NEW ERA

Elliott's title, addition of Jordan as team co-owner are a big part of change

Godwin Kelly
Daytona Beach News-Journal
USA TODAY NETWORK

There is no doubt NASCAR has started a new era heralded, of course, by Chase Elliott's Cup Series championship.

The soon-to-be 25-year-old driver set a clear marker on the stock-car timeline with his victory and title at Phoenix Raceway.

With the addition of Michael Jordan as a team co-owner, coupled with the retirements of Jimmie Johnson and Clint Bowyer and many other things happening, NASCAR is rounding second base in its interior/exterior renovation.

The game plan is to hold on to as many old-school fans as possible while building a brand which appeals to those in the coveted beer-drinking, taco-eating 18-to-35 demographic.

While COVID-19 hasn't done any favors for anybody, it did allow NASCAR to become the first "league" to reactivate in the spring (the only game in town) and permitted the sanctioning body to experiment with scheduling, such as adding two additional doubleheader Cup weekends.

Practice and qualifying were eliminated, creating an environment embraced by some teams (Kevin Harvick's nine wins) and not others (Kyle Busch barely got one

win). The list goes on and on. More change is on the way.

We've seen these big swings in the past, such as when the Cup Series went from 48 races in 1971 to 31 in '72, all staged on asphalt; a simplified points system was put in place; and Winston came charging in with its marketing budget to be an entitlement sponsor.

Armed with a 2021 schedule featuring more road courses (welcome COTA) and short tracks and the prospect of a new-generation car in 2022, NASCAR is beyond the setting the table for the future; it's already serving heavy *hors d'oeuvres*.

NASCAR is on the clock. Television money has helped hold the racing package together this season. The \$8 billion TV contract NASCAR has with Fox and NBC ends in 2024.

The negotiating process will begin in 2022. Here's hoping the "new NASCAR" has a foothold by that time.

First gear

Here is some good news for the sport. Despite the season being significantly affected by coronavirus, NBC Sports matched its viewership numbers from the 2019 campaign, headlined by a 3% viewership gain for races airing on the NBC broadcast network.

The season was capped by Chase Elliott's first Cup Series championship on NBC last Sunday, which produced a Total Audience Delivery of 3.093 million

viewers.

Viewership peaked at 4.087 million views as Elliott crossed the finish line for his win.

Second gear

Car owner Rick Hendrick boasts an all-time record 13 NASCAR Cup Series championships with four drivers, most recently with Elliott.

But did you know Hendrick had to wait quite a while to get title No.1? He started the team in 1984 but didn't win his first crown as a car owner until 1995 with Jeff Gordon.

Third gear

NASCAR's current youth movement can be found in the stat book. The average age of this year's crop of NASCAR national series champions is 23. Elliott was 24. Xfinity champ Austin Cindric is 22 while Gander RV & Outdoors Truck Series trophy winner Sheldon Creed is 23.

Fourth gear

Even if Denny Hamlin did not win the championship, his team is riding a huge crest of momentum. "No one has won more than we have over the last two years," he said. "(Winning) the Daytona 500 and (qualifying for) the final four two years in a row; I'm pretty proud of what this team is doing and what we are building toward."

- April 18: Richmond
- April 25: Talladega
- May 2: Kansas
- May 9: Darlington
- May 16: Dover
- May 23: Austin
- May 30: Charlotte
- June 6: Sonoma
- June 13: Texas All-Star
- June 20: Nashville
- June 26: Pocono

- June 27: Pocono
- July 4: Road America (Wisconsin)
- July 11: Atlanta
- July 18: New Hampshire
- Aug. 8: Watkins Glen
- Aug. 15: Indianapolis
- Aug. 22: Michigan
- Aug. 28: Daytona
- Playoffs Round of 16
- Sept. 5: Darlington
- Sept. 11: Richmond

- Sept. 18: Bristol
- Playoffs Round of 12
- Sept. 26: Las Vegas
- Oct. 3: Talladega
- Oct. 10: Charlotte Roval
- Playoffs Round of 8
- Oct. 17: Texas
- Oct. 24: Kansas
- Oct. 31: Martinsville
- Championship Round
- Nov. 7: Phoenix

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Information

Visit the Bethlehem Area Public Library at www.youtube.com/channel/UCsuAN4AF6kv3jQ1us_WkWQ/featured and www.bapl.org/events/categories/virtual-events for a variety of items. Bethlehem Area Public Library, 11 E. Church St. buildings are currently closed but have touchless checkouts to pickup books previously reserved online. For general information, visit www.bapl.org (main) or at www.facebook.com/paBAPL or www.bapl.org/ssmain.htm (SouthSide).

Libraries closed Nov. 26 -Thanksgiving Day.

Main Library - 11 W. Church St.

Wednesday, November 18

Virtual homework help from the Bethlehem Area Public Library, grades K-12, Moravian College America Reads program tutors. 4 to 6 p.m. No registration is needed. Click on https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89913293623?pwd=REovcFdmTmJBZWkzeTZvbVZQT-1JPZD09 to be placed in a waiting room, then moved to a break out room to work with a tutor for a 30 minute session.

Saturday, November 21 and 28

November is National Novel Writing Month. Stop by the BAPL, 11 W. Church St. NANOWRIMO writers will be on hand. Registration is not required. For information, visit www.bapl.org.

Saturday, November 21

Teen Sculpey figure crafting take-away for grades six-12. Anytime between noon and 5 p.m. Stop by Main Library for instructions and supplies while they last. View Sculpey tutorial on the BAPL Facebook or Youtube channel and make your own original figure. No registration required.

Custom design T-shirt take-away for grades six-12. Pick up a design submission form for your project at the Main Library. Create your original design and return the form to main, or snap a picture and send it via email to kfitzpatrick@bapl.org by Dec. 1. Your 5x5 iron-on design for a cotton T-shirt will be ready for pick-up Dec. 12-23.

Thanks-a-day gratitude display for all ages at main library, 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Stop by the main library and select a paper pumpkin, turkey or leaf cutout. Write or draw what you are grateful for in your life. Your work will be displayed in the front window.

Wednesday, November 25

Virtual Homework Help from the Bethlehem Area Public Library, grades K-12, Moravian College America Reads program tutors. 4 to 6 p.m. No registration needed. Click on https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89913293623?pwd=REovcFdmTmJBZWkzeTZvbVZQT-1JPZD09 to be placed in a waiting room, then moved to a break out room to work with a tutor for a 30-minute session.

Thursday, November 26

Bethlehem Area Public Library closed.

The Bethlehem Press calendar listings are, to the best of our knowledge, correct at the time of printing. We are not responsible for the accuracy or reliability of information submitted by external parties.

June in November



PRESS PHOTO BY NATE JASTRZEMSKI

Summer made a brilliant comeback in Bethlehem last week with three straight days of around 75 and sunny. Falling leaves, blistering chill and freezing rain - typical at this time of year - were a mere figment of dreary winter memories only now slinking back into our lives.

HEALTH NEWS

St. Luke's University Health Network

Internal Medicine staff added

Fabio Dorville, M.D.; Hiralal Rana, M.D.; and Kaushik Kundu, M.D., and some of their staff, joined St. Luke's University Health Network recently. The St. Luke's Northgate Internal Medicine practice is located at both 1130 Delaware Ave. and 5325 Northgate Drive, Suite 201, both in Bethlehem.

Dr. Dorville earned his medical degree from the University of Brasilia and completed his internship and residency at St. Luke's University Hospital in Bethlehem. Dr. Kundu, a 22-year veteran of St. Luke's, earned his medical degree from the University of Calcutta and completed his internship and residency at St. Luke's University Hospital, Bethlehem. Dr. Rana has been with St. Luke's for more than 13 years and earned his medical degree from Baroda Medical College and completed his residency at Easton Hospital, now St. Luke's Easton Campus.

The group will practice at two locations: 1130 Delaware Avenue and 5325 Northgate Drive, Suite 201. To make an appointment, call 610-625-4400 or 610-868-2710.

Heart Campus to open next March

St. Luke's Sacred Heart Campus, Allentown, will open in March 2021, the Lehigh Valley's first Level IV medical detoxification unit. It will provide 24-hour medical supervision to people withdrawing from alcohol or other drugs. Detoxification in a specialized acute care setting is one of the first steps in treating substance abuse disorders, especially for patients with chronic illnesses.

The 16-bed inpatient unit for adults age 18 and older will have physicians, substance use disorder experts, advanced practitioners, registered nurses, patient care assistants and dietitians on duty. Patients will be referred to the unit through assessments by drug and alcohol crisis staff through emergency rooms.

SpaceOAR Hydrogel available

St. Luke's Cancer Center has added SpaceOAR Hydrogel cancer pre-treatment option for men undergoing radiation treatment for prostate cancer. The absorbable gel, the first and only FDA-cleared spacer, reduces the radiation dose delivered to the rectum and rectal complications and damage. The unit remains in place for about three months and is naturally absorbed and cleared from the body in the patient's urine.

Prostate cancer is the most common cancer in American men, treating more than 60,000 cases of prostate cancer with radiation every year. In a randomized clinical study, men who underwent SpaceOAR experienced a significant reduction in rectal radiation dose and severity of late rectal toxicity compared to control patients who did not receive SpaceOAR Hydrogel. Patients not receiving the gel were eight times more likely to experience a decline in bowel, urinary and sexual function when compared to men who underwent radiation therapy with SpaceOAR Hydrogel, at a median follow-up of three years.

FDA clearance was granted for SpaceOAR Hydrogel following completion of a prospective, multicenter, randomized clinical trial. The clinical trial results were published in the peer-reviewed Red Journal.5

Grants will help staff rural areas

St. Luke's Graduate Medical Education (GME) department recently secured \$3.25 million in federal to educate and train a new generation of physicians specializing in rural medicine. The funds, issued by HRSA (Health Resources and Services Administration), will prepare physicians for practice in small-town settings and help strengthen rural communities which have difficulty accessing health care services.

These grants will further enhance the existing family medicine rural residency training program and help establish a new and novel psychiatry rural residency training program. St. Luke's GME researched the availability of these grants with specific rural regions in mind.

"Rural" refers to a federally-designated area based on population. Generally, it includes any place with fewer than 50,000 inhabitants, and not located adjacent to an urban area, which accounts for about 46 million Americans or 15 percent of the U.S. population. Populations in these regions generally have less access to quality care; many patients in the St. Luke's University Health Network fall into this "rural" category.

BRIEFLY MORAVIAN ARCHIVES

Zinzendorf event set for Nov. 18

There will be a free, open to the public Zinzendorf exhibit from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Nov. 18 in the gallery of the Moravian Archives, 41 W. Locust St. The archive covers the visit of German Count Nikolaus Ludwig von Zinzendorf (1700-1760) to America in 1741-1743. The American Indians called him "Johanan," blessed through grace. Many of the exhibit's artifacts will be shown to the public for the first time.

Because of COVID-related precautions, visitors are asked to call ahead to reserve a time slot for their visit. This exhibit is sponsored by the German Consulate General New York. For more information and reservations for a visit, call 610-866-3255 or visit www.moravian-churcharchives.org.

BETHEHEM

Giveaways meals set for Nov. 26

Owner Yianni Kyrizidis and staff will be giving away 200 free meals (one per person) for 200 local people in need on November 26. The first come, first served (while supplies last) dinners will be available beginning at 11 a.m. at Pat's Pizza and Bistro, 1426 W. Broad St. Pat's will be making a very limited amount of deliveries. For Pat's, it's a day to give back to the community.

For more information, visit www.PatsBistro.com or https://m.facebook.com/patspizzabethlehem/.

Celebrate the Holidays in Historic Bethlehem!

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- CHRISTMAS COTTAGE RENTAL** Warm up and Get Cozy at Christmas in the Quarter while enjoying the festivities. Winner will receive an hour long time slot inside the warming hut. Each cottage has a table and chairs with a heater and fits 4 comfortably.
- TAKE HOME TREAT BASKET** Take the holidays home with you with a basket filled with surprise treats compliments of The Bake-A-Re, Historic Bethlehem Museums & Sites and Lehigh Valley Press. **TOTAL PRIZE PACKAGE \$200 VALUE**

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WINNER PICKED NOV. 27, 2020

Historic Bethlehem MUSEUMS & SITES

OFF MY WAVE.

Ocean Beach legend and local surf legend Steve Bettis was diagnosed with MS in 2006. Although surfing is still central to his life, he hasn't been able to get out on the water in 10 years. For a man whose daily routine always included a few waves, more than a decade out of the surf is just too long. This is why the National MS Society teamed up with his buddy Robert "Wingnut" Weaver and used virtual reality to get Steve back on his wave. See their experience and find out how you can share yours at WeAreStrongerThanMS.org.

MS
Together We Are Stronger

Smiles, masks and stress

Senior year! The one year every student looks forward to. The last year of high school, the final hurrah, the hardest goodbye. I never imagined my senior year being like this. No one imagined any of this. I couldn't tell you how many of my family members came to me asking about school. This pandemic is leaving us with more questions than answers. Hopefully, I can fill you in on some ways Lehigh Valley Academy relates to questions.

LVA is an IB school, which means we students are blessed with learning at an advanced level. From Internal Assessments (IA) to Extended Essays (EE), LVA has tons of assignments that the seniors must complete before graduation. This pandemic is of no help. With LVA closing early in spring 2020, the then juniors didn't get to complete or start their IAs for many of their classes. Now, seniors are being overwhelmed with so much work.

Jasson Benitez has this to say about his senior year: "It's all right. I'm missing out on a lot of things, but it is what it is."

Amberly Figueroa said, "It's okay. It's not bad, but it could be better."

This year is not only tough on students but also on the teachers. Here is what DP Theory of Knowledge teacher Ms. Caroff has to say about teachers in this crazy year: "Teaching this year definitely takes a lot more preparation, just because we're trying to make things accessible for everyone online. I know so many teachers here have been working so many extra hours, just trying to make things more engaging for everyone. It's definitely different. I miss seeing a lot of my students since only some of them are hybrid, but all of my students have been really great about just doing their best and powering through. I'm just really proud of them! I think that we are all trying to do the best we could right now, and everyone is doing a great job!"

The LVA student council is one of the many activities LVA has to offer, and it is personally one of my favorites. There may be a little bias on my behalf since I am the Promoter for the organization. Student council is in charge of most of the events, such as pep rallies, dances, Spirit Week, and many more things. Sadly, many of these events might not happen, which is hard on everyone in high school, since those events are what we all look forward to.

Here is what the president of the Student Council, Ella Beaky, has to say: "It's hard to make any concrete decisions about the events we're planning because of the capacity limits and things like that. The restrictions are really hard to work around."

LVA has many clubs, ranging from MiniTHON to SAGA, but these clubs are facing multiple uncertainties. Here is what the head of LVA's MiniTHON, Mr. Colacito, had to say when I asked about any updates: "The Four Diamonds Fund, which is the charity that all of our money goes to, is still holding MiniTHONS across Pennsylvania. As for LVA's MiniTHON, I am still working with our captains here at LVA to figure out how to approach this new year. We are still looking at different fundraisers that we can do outside of school, but because of our new schedule and all of the limitations we have, it's hard to do fundraisers in school."

I asked students from different grades how they feel about this strange school year, and here is what they had to say.

Kasper Kutyla says, "Obviously circumstances are different than usual. I feel like there is a lot more stress and a lot less time to relax, and less fun activities planned. It's more like work, work, work, and then some more work."

It seems like many of the freshmen only know one adjective when it comes to answering this question, which is, "good."

To stay up to date with LVA event-related news, be sure to follow the Student Council Instagram @lva_studentcouncil. REMEMBER, wash your hands and wear a mask.



Campos



PRESS PHOTOS COURTESY MATT PISZEL

Elle Surowiecki (kneeling), Mazzi Paulus, Helga Rimmoneau, Cindy Kemp, Donna Mackaravitz and Matt Piszel, representing the United Proclamation of the Gospel (Light of Christ and St. Peter's Lutheran churches), walk in an east Bethlehem neighborhood.

CROP walk has different look

The 36th annual Bethlehem Area CROP Hunger Walk was held, virtually, Oct. 11. Due to event restrictions by Church World Service, the event's national organizer, participants were asked to walk individually or in small groups. Unlike past years, when the event kicked

off from Payrow Plaza or the HBI parking lot, this year each church team or individual chose their own route. Also, in contrast to prior years when attendance varied from 250 to 400, this year there were only 51 confirmed walkers, but they raised \$10,126. Funds

are used to alleviate hunger, aid refugees, and help victims of natural disaster here and around the world. One quarter of the money raised is returned to help local soup kitchens, food pantries and social agencies.



Suzanne Perry-Bachman, Carla Perry and Anyla Hanley, representing St. Stephen's Lutheran Church in Fountain Hill, take their walk on Sand Island.



Blake Messman, Tom Pheiffer, Deb Hepler and Pastor Dan Miller, representing Edgeboro Moravian Church, walk in the church neighborhood.

LETTER FROM DR. ROY

November 13, 2020

Dear BASD Staff, Parents and Guardians,

Today, the Pennsylvania Department of Health (PA DOH) determined that Northampton County's level of community COVID-19 transmission is now "substantial." Northampton County's rate of 213.2 new positive cases per 100,000 residents over the previous seven days exceeds the PA DOH substantial spread threshold of 100 new cases per 100,000 residents. Northampton County's percentage of positive tests is now 8.0 percent, which exceeds the state target of less than 5 percent.



Roy

The Pennsylvania Department of Education (PDE) currently recommends that districts move to full online learning when a county reaches the substantial spread category. However, PDE also recognizes each of Pennsylvania's 500 districts is different and leaves to each local district the decision to remain in the hybrid model or to move to fully online instruction.

When making our decision to stay the course with our current hybrid model, we considered the fact that our health protocols, contact tracing and daily collaboration with the City of Bethlehem Health Bureau work well in preventing the spread of any COVID-19 cases in school.

In partnership with the Bethlehem Health Bureau, St. Luke's University Health Network and Northampton County School Superintendents, we have determined that it is in the best interest of our students, staff, and communities to maintain our current hybrid model of instruction until further notice. We will continue to monitor the data and reevaluate this decision regularly.

When making our decision to stay the course with our current hybrid model, we considered the fact that our health protocols, contact tracing and daily collaboration with the City of Bethlehem Health Bureau work well in preventing the spread of any COVID-19 cases in school. Additionally, the Northampton County superintendents discussed the challenges a shift in learning models will create for our students, families and community at large. We recognize that our districts are not entities unto themselves, but rather interwoven with other school communities whereby the decisions made by one has the potential to create a ripple effect across the region. Maintaining a level of consistency across Northampton County schools helps to alleviate the negative impact felt by all of our families and staff.

While we are continuing with the hybrid model at this time, COVID-19 case numbers in the community continue to escalate. The upcoming Thanksgiving and Christmas holidays will likely further accelerate the virus spread. Parents and staff should think now about childcare needs and prepare now for a future change to fully online learning which could come on short notice depending on quickly changing circumstances.

I want to thank all of our BASD faculty/staff, as well as our parents and students. None of us chose this difficult situation, yet it is ours to deal with. Let's give each other a break and a helping hand. Let's continue to treat each other with compassion and grace.

Sincerely,
Joseph J. Roy, Ed.D.
Superintendent of Schools



Larry Generose and Heather Busch represent Central Moravian as they walk in downtown Bethlehem.



Chris Bosch, a 30+ year veteran of CROP Walks, representing Central Moravian, walks downtown.

CACLV defies training ban order

ANOTHER VIEW

Saying he has more respect for the First Amendment to the United States Constitution than for the 45th president, Alan Jennings, executive director of the Community Action Committee of the Lehigh Valley, publicly announced that his organization would defy Executive Order 13950. The order, issued Sept. 22, prohibits organizations receiving federal funding from offering or receiving training that:

The EO bans federal grants to programs unless such programs certify that they will not promote "divisive concepts." The EO will also ban training by qualifying federal contractors on the same "divisive concepts." The EO defines divisive concepts to include any notions that promote that: (1) one race or sex is inherently superior to another race or sex; (2) an individual, by

virtue of his or her race or sex, is inherently racist, sexist, or oppressive, (3) an individual should be discriminated against or receive adverse treatment solely or partly because of his or her race or sex; (4) members of one race or sex cannot and should not attempt to treat others without respect to race or sex; (5) an individual's moral character is necessarily determined by his or her race or sex; (6) an individual, by virtue of his or her race or sex, bears responsibility for actions committed in the past by other members of the same race or sex; (7) any individual should feel discomfort, guilt, anguish, or any other form of psychological distress on account of his or her race or sex; or (8) meritocracy or traits such as a hard work

ethic are racist or sexist, or were created by a particular race to oppress another race. The term "divisive concepts" also includes any other form of race or sex "stereotyping" or any other form of race or sex scapegoating.

When Jennings learned that the order allows the federal government to yank funding if contractors or grantees refused to comply, he reacted with the following statement:

"This country, this community, has a race problem. If we can be honest with ourselves for just a few minutes, it is apparent that the Lehigh Valley is segregated. White kids get better educational resources, they have more freedom, more resources. They are more likely to be the beneficiary of an in-

heritance from an affluent relative. They don't get pulled over because a turn signal doesn't function. They don't get shot in the back at close range by a rogue police officer.

"The leadership in more and more businesses, more and more non-profits, more and more government agencies has seen enough George Floyds and are leading the way in insisting that we as a people come together, work together, cry together and solve problems together. Hopefully, even celebrate together.

"The Community Action Committee of the Lehigh Valley has worked with banks to improve access to capital, with Realtors to improve compliance with fair housing laws, and is in the midst of a potentially ground-breaking process

See CACLV on Page A15

Emma Ortiz Torres
Bethlehem Area VTS

Grade: 12th
Family members: (mom) Luz D. Torres; (stepdad) Ben Garcia; (sisters) Adangelis Ortiz Torres and Noralivelis Ortiz Torres

Favorite subjects: I enjoy my US government class because it mostly connect to real-life or events that happen today.

Next steps: I hope to take the necessary classes I need to own my own restaurant.

Career goals: I would love to own my own restaurant and cook good quality fresh food.

Heroes: My grandfather, he is someone who hasn't given up, so when I feel like I'm giving up I look at him and it reminds me of all of the hard work he has done for our family, inspiring me to do better.

Volunteer work: I prepared and served a variety of food items on the BAVTS food truck, and cleaned the food truck after the event.

Likes: I like to draw, do hair, cook different foods containing new ingredients.

Dislikes: I don't like driving



Torres

in the rain, or drinking cold brew.
Greatest accomplishment: My greatest accomplishment is staying strong. I feel like as teens people think we are fine and have nothing to worry about. In reality, some of us really go through it, and at times are forced to grow up early, leaving us with no childhood.

Advice for peers: Always make sure that what you are doing is making you happy; live for yourself.

Student profile subjects are selected by faculty and administration at the individual schools.

BETHLEHEM AVTS NOTES
By Emma Ortiz Torres

Veterans honored

The land of the free because of the brave. On Veterans Day, Bethlehem Area Vocational-Technical School honored its staff and enlisted students with a prerecorded video made with the assistance of the SkillsUSA and HOSA officers. Normally, the ceremony is a live event; however, following COVID Compliance procedures the event was recorded to protect the safety of our staff and students. We are providing the YouTube link to you to view at your leisure. <https://youtu.be/r8lTJd7SryY> This year's ceremony was dedicated to Robert Tresize, the beloved spouse of instructional assistant Sally Tresize, who served our country in Vietnam.

Jonae Jimenez, a senior from Freedom HS, honored us with an a capella performance of the "Star Spangled Banner." Watch the YouTube video and hear her beautiful voice.

The following staff members were honored for their service: Stan Dixon, Building Trades instructor, USMC; Michael Galler, Supervisor of Curriculum, USMC and Pa. Army National Guard; Sergio Rivas, Video Media Arts instructor, U.S. Army; and Kevin Strawn, Electrical Construction instructor, U.S. Navy and U.S. Army National Guard.

The enlisted students were: Kaila Gazaway, Northampton, 12, a U.S. Army Reserve, Medical Logistics Specialist; Josiah Sandoval, Freedom, 12, a Pa. Army National Guard, Nineteen Kilo Armour Crewman; and Xavier Soto, Freedom, 12, a Pa. National Guard, Artillery Specialist.

Students involved in the preparation and ceremony include: Chris Frey, SkillsUSA Ambassador, Homeland Security/Protective Services, Saucon Valley-11; Elizabeth Rodriguez, Color Guard, Homeland Security/Protective Services, Liberty-12; Yazli Rodriguez, Color Guard, Homeland Security/Protective Services, Liberty-12; Trevor Rubino, SkillsUSA Ambassador, Homeland Security/Protective Services, Northampton 11; Paige Sciarra, Color Guard, Homeland Security/Protective Services, Liberty-11; Alessandra Scipioni, SkillsUSA president, Homeland Security/Protective Services, Freedom-12; Jenna Sebring, HOSA Reporter, Health Careers, Northampton, 12; Joseph Sheats, SkillsUSA Ambassador, Automotive Technology, Northampton-11; and Abby Sipel, HOSA President, Health Careers, Freedom-12.

Three students have been recognized by the Bethlehem Rotary for their achievements this fall. They include September honoree Kaila Gazaway, a Northampton senior in Health Careers; Izabella Block, a Freedom senior in Fashion Industries for October; and for November the representative is Jheremy Iparaguire, a senior from Liberty in the Graphic Communications program. Our own Nikki Gingrich, director of Development and Marketing, is the current chair of the vocational committee.

The Rotary is a volunteer organization with 33,000 clubs in over 200 countries and geographical areas. It initiates humanitarian projects that address challenges affecting the world today, such as hunger, poverty and illiteracy. Rotary Club members unite a broad cross-section of business and professional leaders around the world around a common mission: Service Above Self. These 1.2 million men and women donate their expertise, time and funds to support local and international projects, helping people in need and promoting understanding among cultures.

Rotary's flagship program is its effort to protect children against polio. It aims to eradicate the disease from the world.

The SkillsUSA officers and ambassadors recently attended leadership and ambassador training. Those students included: Alessandro Scipioni, Freedom-12, president; Cody Trauger, Liberty-11, vice-president; Keily Gaetan, Liberty-12, treasurer; and Treyvon Fitzpatrick, Liberty-11, secretary. The following students are ambassadors for the organization: Brooke Brinker, Saucon Valley-11; Christopher Frey, Saucon Valley-11; Avery Ortiz, Northampton-12; Trevor Rubino, Northampton-11; and Joseph Sheats, Northampton-11.



Students involved in planning Veterans Day program include Abby Sipel, Jenna Sebring, Trevor Rubino, Yazli Rodriguez, Paige Sciarra, Joseph Sheats and Alessandra Scipioni.

'Stop and look to a veteran'

Whitehall hosts annual ceremony despite pandemic

BY CAROLE GORNEY
Special to the Bethlehem Press

Despite constant rain and the coronavirus pandemic, Whitehall Township hosted its annual outdoor Veterans Day ceremony Nov. 11 with speakers, color guard, flag raising and the playing of Taps.

Although the national holiday is dedicated to recognizing present and past veterans—living and dead—who have served the country in one of the branches of the military in war or peace, it is mainly intended to thank living veterans.

In his remarks, guest speaker Maj. Gen. Jerry Still (USAF-Ret) explained that Veterans Day began as a celebration of peace.

"Our nation and our allies had fought 'The War to End All Wars.' The guns fell silent on Nov. 11, 1918, on the 11th day of the 11th month at the 11th hour at 11:11 a.m."

Still, who is president of the Lehigh Valley Military Affairs Council that services 40,000 veterans in the area, said four million Americans served in WWI, and 16 million in the Second World War.

"To them we owe an incredible debt."

In 1919 President Wilson proclaimed November 11 Armistice Day, but it wasn't until 1938 that the date became a national holiday. In 1954, the word "Veterans" was substituted for "Armistice" in the original 1938 legislation.

"Wherever they have served," Still said, "our veterans have answered the call to defend our freedom, and if need be, to give their lives in its defense. Veterans Day is a reminder of those sacrifices."

Whitehall Township Mayor Michael Harakal Jr. tied his comments to the recent presidential election.

"Veterans Day often follows a hard-fought political campaign — an exercise in the free speech and self-government that you fought for," Harakal said. "It often lays bare disagreements across our nation, but the American instinct has never been to find isolation in opposite corners. It is to find strength in our common creed, to forge unity from our great diversity, to sustain that strength and unity even when it is hard.

"When the election is



PRESS PHOTOS BY CAROLE GORNEY

Among the groups represented at the Whitehall ceremony were the Egypt VFW Post 7293, American Legion posts 367 and 739, and the Whitehall Fire Department.



Guest speaker Maj. Gen. Jerry Still (USAF Ret.) is president of the Lehigh Valley Military Affairs Council, a 501(c)(3) nonprofit that addresses local issues affecting more than 40,000 in Lehigh and Northampton counties.



The Whitehall Police Force assists in raising the American Flag during the 45-minute ceremony.



Standing at attention are various veterans groups from near Whitehall. Many local community events were canceled because of the pandemic.



The ceremony was held at the Whitehall Township Veterans Memorial in front of the administration building on MacArthur Road. The memorial was dedicated in 2017.



"Taps" is a bugle call played at 2100 hours, during flag ceremonies and at military funerals of the U.S. Armed Forces. "Taps" also is heard at Memorial Day and Veterans Day events.

CACLV

Continued from page A14 of developing a regional strategic plan on diversity, equity and inclusion. Racism in America, in the Lehigh Valley is not just the use of denigrating language (e.g., the so-called "N-word"). There are systems that are locked in that exclude and some are very effective.

"This agency's work on the Color Outside the Lines planning process

has brought 870 people that participated in more than 70 group sessions. Apparently, getting the vast diversity in our communities to have productive dialogues designed to bring us together is some kind of threat to the president's perspective on our world. I have seen enough that I am not surprised but I despair that his perspective is so grounded in bigotry.

"For our part, CACLV will not be deterred. We

believe that we really are all better off when we are all better off, that we solve our problems by being inclusive, not slam the door in someone's face because their skin color is a little darker.

"We reject paranoia, we reject racism, we reject exceptionalism, we reject division, nativism and xenophobia. And we reject demagoguery.

"CACLV will defy an executive order that is ill-founded, ill-developed,

ill-intended, cynical and, yes, racist. It blatantly disrespects the centuries-old document that defines us as a nation.

"Our Campaign for Racial and Ethnic Justice will go ahead with the training that more than 1,900 people locally have signed on to attend. We thank each of them for understanding how much better this community can be."

Contributed article

YOUR LOCAL WEATHER

7 Day Forecast	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday
	Mostly Sunny	Partly Cloudy	Partly Cloudy	Partly Cloudy	Mostly Cloudy	Few Showers	Mostly Cloudy
	41 / 22 3-14 mph NW	48 / 34 3-9 mph S	56 / 38 5-9 mph SW	57 / 40 2-5 mph SSW	58 / 39 2-7 mph SSE	57 / 40 4-13 mph WNW	55 / 36 3-6 mph SE

FORECAST FOR LEHIGH VALLEY PENNSYLVANIA

Today we will see mostly sunny skies, high temperature of 41°, humidity of 41%. Northwest wind 3 to 14 mph. The record high temperature for today is 70° set in 1963. Expect mostly clear skies tonight, overnight low of 22°. Light winds. The record low for tonight is 17° set in 1959. Thursday, skies will be partly cloudy, high temperature of 48°, humidity of 53%. South wind 3 to 9 mph. Thursday night, skies will be partly cloudy, overnight low of 34°. South southwest wind 7 mph. Friday, skies will be partly cloudy, high temperature of 56°, humidity of 57%. Southwest wind 5 to 9 mph. Friday night, skies will be partly cloudy, overnight low of 38°. West wind 2 to 6 mph. Saturday, skies will be partly cloudy, high of 57°, humidity of 67%.

Weather Trivia

The National Weather Service is under what federal department?

Answer: The Department of Commerce.

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AREA DEATHS

Liam Michael Gilroy

of Bethlehem

Liam Michael Gilroy, 41, of Bethlehem, died from natural causes in his home Oct. 27, 2020. For the past 20 years, he lived with paranoid schizophrenia. He was a son of Diane (Kotzur) Gilroy and the late William F. Gilroy III.

He was a 1997 graduate of Northampton Area HS.

He worked when younger in the construction industry with his father, building roads and bridges. He was an experienced grade checker. He was a surveyor's helper.

He is survived by three sisters, Kate Gilroy (Adama Koné), Tara Gilroy (Jeff Stone) and Shawna Gilroy (Thomas Steck); and five nieces and nephews, Amina Koné, Madison Stone, Dylan Stone, Maxwell Steck and Calvin Steck.

A gathering to celebrate his life will be announced in the future.

Contributions may be given to NAMI Lehigh Valley (National Alliance on Mental Illness) at nami-lv.org/donate; or mailed to 802 W. Broad St., Bethlehem, 18018.

Arrangements were made by Schisler Funeral Home Inc., Northampton.

Zilda F. Guerra

Holy Infancy Parish member

Zilda F. Guerra, 97, died Nov. 10, 2020. Born in Bethlehem, she was a daughter of the late Manuel and Hilda Gonsalves. She was the wife of the late Bernard "Babe" Guerra.

She worked at age six in the garment district. She sewed, embroidered, needlepointed and stitched from age of nine until age 87. She was the first zipper-setter of dresses for the former A.G. Baba Sportswear. She also worked for the Chic-A-Dee dress factory.

She was a member of Holy Infancy Parish, Bethlehem.

She is survived by a daughter, Bernadette and her husband Rocco Misero; and many nieces and nephews of the Gonsalves/Guerra family.

She was predeceased by a sister who died in childhood; and two brothers, Manuel (Helen) and Louis (Caroline) Gonsalves; and four sisters, Rose (Al) Teles, Theresa (Tony) Oliveira, Isabel (Frank) Martinez, and Alzira Marrero.

Contributions may be made to Pastor Andrew Gehringer, Holy Infancy Church, 312 E. Fourth St., Bethlehem, PA 18015.

Arrangements were made by Connell Funeral Home Inc., Bethlehem.

Roger Luce Walter

1965 Lehigh University graduate

Roger Luce Walter, 77, died on Nov. 9, 2020, in Country Meadows, Bethlehem, where he resided for the last several months of his life. He had Parkinson's disease. Born in McKeesport, he was a son of Geraldine (Luce) and William F. Walter Jr. He was the husband of Cathryn Walter.

He was a graduate of Elizabeth Forward HS. He was a 1965 graduate of Lehigh University, where he was on the debate team.

He received a commission through Lehigh's ROTC program and was in the U.S. Army. He retired with the rank of captain. He was in the 507th Heavy Equipment Maintenance Company in Hanau, Germany.

His career was at Bell Telephone / AT&T, from which he retired in 1997. He was a geneologist. He traced on

his family tree one Edward Doty, a 1620 passenger on the Mayflower.

In addition to his wife, he is survived by four sons, Douglas of Ivyland; Jeffrey of Queen Creek, Arizona; Charles of Greenwich, Connecticut; and Stephen of Milford, Delaware; a stepdaughter, Michelle Brown of Saylorburg; a stepson, Scott DuBets of Roseto; three sisters, Lynn Davis of Goldsboro, North Carolina, Joyce Henderson of Vanderbilt and Sydney Markle of Dawson; 10 grandchildren; five step-grandchildren; five great-grandchildren; and a step-great-grandchild.

Contributions may be made to the charity of one's choice.

Arrangements were made by Pearson Funeral Home Inc., Bethlehem.

Richard J. Mortimer Sr.

BASD teacher

Richard J. Mortimer Sr., 83, of Coplay, died Nov. 8, 2020, at Lehigh Valley Hospital - Muhlenberg Campus, Bethlehem. Born in Coplay, he was a son of the late Joshua and Bessie (Bennett) Mortimer. He was the husband of Hilda (Deutsch) Mortimer for 61 years.

He was a 1955 graduate of the former Coplay HS. He earned a bachelor's degree in education from the former Kutztown State Teacher's College and earned a master's degree in education from Lehigh University.

He was a Bethlehem Area School District educator for 38 years. He was an elementary school teacher at the Buchanan School and then taught at Northeast Middle School until he retired in 1997.

He was a long standing member of the Coplay Borough Council. He was a life member of both the Coplay American Club and the Coplay Saengerbund and a member of the Coplay American Legion Post #426. He was a member of the Coplay Lions Club, where he was formerly a president, treasurer and

district zone chairman. He received the 2008 Melvin Jones Award, the Lions highest award. He was a former Cubmaster for the Cub Scout Troop at St. Peter's R.C. Church, Coplay. He was a former member of the former Blue Ridge Country Club, Palmerton.

In addition to his wife, he is survived by a daughter, Christine and her husband Alan Schmall of Northampton; three sons, Richard J. Jr. and his wife Corinne, Russell, and Matthew and his wife Roberta, all of Whitehall; seven grandchildren, Lindsay, Caitlin, Ian, Evan, Elliot, Lauren and Amanda; and a great-granddaughter, Arya Violet.

He was predeceased by three sisters, Shirley, Jean and Dorothy; and two brothers, Thomas and Joshua.

Services will be private.

Contributions may be made to the Coplay Lions Club, c/o Schisler Funeral Home Inc., 2119 Washington Ave., Northampton, 18067

Arrangements were made by Schisler Funeral Home Inc., Northampton.



CONTRIBUTED IMAGE

The 250th anniversary of Ludwig van Beethoven is celebrated with a live-stream concert, 7:30 p.m. Nov. 21, by members of the Allentown Symphony Orchestra.

a 250th of Beethoven

Allentown Symphony concert is live-stream birthday tribute

Ludwig van Beethoven is a name familiar to many as the composer of the famous 5th Symphony, "Moonlight Sonata," "Pathétique Sonata," "Eroica" Symphony No. 3, "Emperor Piano Concerto" No. 5, and, of course, the famous "Ode to Joy" used in his Symphony No. 9.

It always amazes me how music can be written by someone who was born 250 years ago, and yet, when we hear it, it sounds like it was written right now in our lifetime. The beauty and power of the music of Beethoven (1770-1827) strikes a chord deep in our hearts and impresses upon me a sense of unity that transcends time and distance throughout the world. Despite all of our differences, music can bring all of us together.

This November, if the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic had not suddenly changed all of our plans, the Allentown Symphony and Chorus, and special guest artists would have performed for the Lehigh Valley a wonderful concert of Beethoven's Piano Concerto No. 4 and his tri-

CLASSICAL VIEWS

By Diane Wittry



umphant 9th Symphony in honor of the 250th anniversary of Beethoven's birth. It would have been a very special evening involving about 120 Orchestra and Chorus members.

Unfortunately, this type of concert was simply not possible during a time when group singing is not allowed, and the Miller Symphony Hall stage, with required social distancing, can only fit up to about 32 musicians.

Add to that the complication that we could not open the hall for the normal capacity audience of 1,100 and you will understand why this concert as originally planned had to be postponed to a future season.

And so we moved to plan "B." In our case, B still stands for Beethoven, but instead of showcasing Beethoven's larger epic works, at 7:30 p.m. Nov. 21, members of the Allentown Symphony Or-

chestra will present a live-stream concert featuring two chamber music pieces by the great master. If you are a 2020-21 season subscriber, you can watch the live-stream for free. But don't worry if you are not yet a subscriber. You can watch the live-stream in the comfort of your living room for a nominal \$15 ticket fee.

Opening the concert is Beethoven's Trio in Bb Major, Op. 11, written in 1797. The piece was originally written for clarinet, cello and piano, but Beethoven, always eager to earn more money, published the piece with an alternative violin part to increase sales. This is the version that has become the most popular in performances today. In our concert, we will be featuring ASO Concertmaster Eliezer Gutman, Violin; Acting Principal Cello Jameson Platte, and ASO Pianist Michael Toth.

The Trio was nicknamed the "Gassenhauer Trio." The word "Gasse" in German means an "alley" or lane, and is used in reference to songs sung or whistled by workers or people in the streets.

The trio's last movement is a set of variations on a popular tune at that time called "Pria ch'io l'impegno" ("Before I go to work, I must have something to eat.") from an opera by Joseph Weigl. So in his own way, Beethoven was bringing people together around his music, by using and quoting other people's music that was popular.

The other piece in the concert is the famous Septet in Eb Major, Op. 20 that Beethoven wrote in 1799. During Beethoven's time, serenades and divertimentos were popular music for the wealthy. Successful composers regularly wrote music for parties, dinners and special events.

The Septet, written for violin, viola, cello, bass, clarinet, horn and bassoon, was first performed at the Royal Imperial Court Theatre at a benefit concert for Beethoven. The piece is separated into six sections or movements. It is light and entertaining and reminiscent of the style of Mozart and Haydn.

In one of the move- See **VIEWS** on Page B3

Curtain Rises

DeSales Theatre Act 1 encores performances

BY KATHY LAUER-WILLIAMS
 Special to The Press

DeSales University's Act 1 launched its first-ever virtual season this fall, and has had such a strong response that the Center Valley school is encoring three of its fall productions.

"Chainz/Broken," "As You Like It" and "Emerging Choreographers Concert" will be available online Nov. 20 - 22.

All three productions, which creatively adhered to social distancing in production, were recorded live and will be available via Vimeo links.

"Chainz/Broken" is two one-acts plays by Paris Crayton III, which are directed by Kalif Troy. "Chainz/Broken" were recorded via Zoom.

In the storyline, four black men have been arrested during a protest about the shooting of a young teen and are in a holding cell at a police station. Despite the static confines of Zoom, the actors convey a broad range of sadness, anger, joy and tears as they learn about each other and themselves.

"Broken" painfully presents five women who have experienced the unthinkable loss of a child, mostly to gun violence.

"Chainz/Broken" is recommended for age 14 and up.

William Shakespeare's "As You Like It," directed by Matt Pfeiffer, was filmed live in Schubert Theatre, Labuda Center for the Performing Arts at DeSales.

The production of one of Shakespeare's funniest comedies follows social distancing with students fighting, falling in love and even wrestling through creative choreography that keeps them at a distance from each other. The production has original music by Alex Bechtel performed on stage.

"Emerging Choreographers Concert," with artistic direction by Angela Sigley Grossman, also was filmed in Schubert Theatre with safety protocols in place. The concert celebrates the beauty of human movement with new works by student choreographers.

To see the performances, choose a day, order tickets, and receive a link and a password, which will be active for 24 hours.

Tickets: www.tickets.desales.edu/; 610-282-3192.

Civic Theatre "Thankful" virtual concert

See **CURTAIN** on Page B5



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO BY LEE A. BUTZ

JP Moran (Oliver), Ryan Reyes (Orlando), "As You Like It," DeSales University Act 1.

Lehigh Valley Health Network reinstates 'No Visits' policy

With the health and safety of patients, staff and the community in mind, as positive cases and hospitalizations increase because of the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic, Lehigh Valley Health Network (LVHN) is re-implementing its "No Visitation, No Access Policy" for its hospitals and outpatient facilities.

This includes Lehigh Valley Physician Group (LVPG) offices. The policy was implemented in the spring during the early weeks of the pandemic and later eased as cases began to decline.

The "No Visitation, No Access Policy" was to take effect for LVHN hospitals and outpatient sites as of 7 p.m. Nov. 17,



according to a Nov. 5 LVHN press release.

LVHN leadership is committed to doing everything possible to ensure families of the most gravely ill patients they can visit their loved one in a safe manner.

Personal protective equipment (PPE) will be provided to these visitors to help ensure the safest possible visit.

The health network also will provide the technology to allow virtual visits for those who aren't able to visit patients in the hospital.

In LVHN hospitals and inpatient facilities, no visitors are permitted except under these special circumstances:

- Visitation of a gravely ill patient in the ICU, including those with COVID-19
- Parent visitation of a child in a pediatric ICU or neonatal ICU
- One coach or partner per patient on labor and delivery unit
- One visitor at a time for patients in inpatient hospice unit
- One parent-guardian at a

time for pediatric patients

- One visitor to accompany patients for hospital discharge
- One visitor for patients undergoing same-day surgeries and procedures
- One visitor per patient in the emergency department
- No child under age 12 is permitted to visit in the hospital
- Reasonable accommodations for pediatric visits will be made, provided any sibling visitors age 12 or above are in good health
- For outpatient appointments, one visitor is permitted to accompany a patient for an outpatient appointment, procedure, same-day surgery or LVPG office visit.

• The person accompanying a patient must be in good health and is subject to a health screening, if necessary.

LVHN officials understand the revisions to the visitation policy might present difficulties for some patients, family members and friends, and we are sympathetic to those concerns.

At the same time, we must be responsible to the communities we serve and do what is best to protect everyone. We urge those who might be impacted to please cooperate with our physicians, nurses and staff as they help us continue to fight COVID-19.

A united effort in following See **COVID-19** on Page B5

CORONAVIRUS manage stress

HELPFUL TIPS FROM THE CDC

Take breaks from watching, reading, or listening to news stories, including social media. Hearing about the pandemic repeatedly can be upsetting.

To learn more, visit www.cdc.gov.



Live-stream from 'Jazz Upstairs,' it's 3 Trios

BY DAVE HOWELL
Special to The Press

Gene Perla has a new concept for his first live-stream concert in the "Jazz Upstairs" series at Miller Symphony Hall, Allentown.

"3 Trios" will feature Perla on bass and Adam Nussbaum on drums with three different pianists, Sean Gough, Oscar Williams II and Davis Whitfield.

Each of the keyboard players will perform three selections with Perla and Nussbaum, and will be joined on a fourth piece by Nicole Glover on saxophone.

"Gene Perla's 3 Trios" will be live-streamed, 7:30 p.m. Nov. 20, Miller Symphony Hall, Allentown.

The "3 Trios" concert will take place on the main stage of Symphony Hall with a limited, invitation-only audience.

In a recent Zoom conference interview, Perla



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
"Gene Perla's 3 Trios" will be live-streamed, 7:30 p.m. Nov. 20, Miller Symphony Hall, Allentown.

calls the concert "real jazz." That is not a precise term, and it means something a little different for each of the musicians who are performing in the concert.

Speaking via Zoom from Jersey City, N.J., Glover says it is about "energy, awareness, depth of feeling and sensitivity to communication.

And about groove and a sense of swing, which is a feeling and not just a ride cymbal pattern."

Perla bluntly says it means "no bullshit." Without classifying the music, his explanation indicates the music will lean toward a traditional format.

"I like to feel that one-two-three-four beat," says Perla, adding he will be "following the form of songs, improvising on chords, creating something from that framework, pushing the energy around, and creating a foundation that comes from us communicating with one another."

Nussbaum, who lives around the corner from Perla in Easton, says he sees the "real jazz" concept as "being built up from what happened in earlier years and passing it on, coming out of the tradition and playing in an honest fashion."

The interaction of the

musicians is important for Nussbaum, who says, "I'm playing with people I never played with before; There is a spirit of adventure in working with fellow human beings, getting together, meeting and finding a common ground."

Perla has worked with musicians that include Miles Davis, Elvin Jones, Joni Mitchell and Sarah Vaughan. He has appeared at the "Jazz Upstairs" series, which usually takes place in the Rodale Community Room, Miller Symphony Hall, 19 times since 2008.

Perla and Nussbaum have worked together in the ensemble, New Light, with saxophonist Dave Liebman, a group that evolved from Perla and Leibman's work with Elvin Jones. Nussbaum has been compared to Jones, with Perla saying they both provided a "wide" beat when playing, "moving things forward with-

out pushing it." Perla and Liebman do not hesitate to play with younger musicians. Glover is 29. Pianist Oscar Williams II, Zooming in from near Detroit, claims not to know how old he is. He good naturedly pulls out his driver's license, which says he was born in 1982.

The "3 Trios" idea came out of necessity. November would have been Perla's seventh consecutive yearly show with vocalist Viktorija Gecyte in the Rodale Community Room.

Gecyte did not want to travel to the United States from Europe this year because of concerns about the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic.

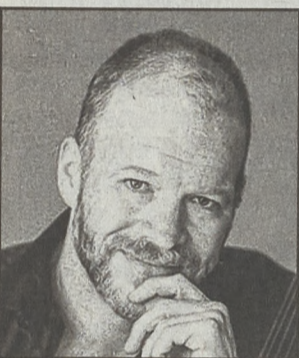
Of course, the coronavirus pandemic has affected all musicians. Perla, who played 178 shows in 2019, is now doing five gigs a month. He is doubtful about a projected European tour in January,

and his teaching job at Lehigh University, which he has had for 20 years, is on hiatus.

Glover remains positive. "For me, it is the same as it was before Covid," says Glover, adding, "I'm not gigging as much, but my energy and focus haven't changed. I'm still trying to move forward."

Williams, who lives in Clifton, N.J., says, "I'm grateful to my roommates, my parents, for people with the same ideals that I have and grateful for the opportunity to play. For me, the music goes beyond notes and songs. That's why I'm here. When this is over, I will be back out there."

Tickets: "Gene Perla's 3 Trios," 7:30 p.m. Nov. 20, Miller Symphony Hall, 23 N. Sixth St., Allentown. www.millersymphonyhall.org/calendar/event/830



Jameson Platte



Peter Paulsen



Michael Toth



Eliezer Gutman



Susan Shaw



Jason Schwartz

VIEWS

Continued from page B1

ments of the Septet, Beethoven quotes from an earlier Piano Sonata that he wrote, and in another movement, we find him borrowing and incorporating a German folk song. I am sure that these melodies were familiar to audience members and they probably smiled and commented as they heard them within his piece.

The Septet became so popular during Beethoven's life, performed in so many different versions and at such a variety of parties, concerts and other occasions that Beetho-

ven eventually began to discredit the piece, trying to point people towards his other "more mature and serious" compositions. Despite this, during his lifetime, Beethoven's Septet continued to be an audience favorite, and it has remained so for the last 200 years.

Performing the Beethoven Septet are Allentown Symphony Orchestra members John Schwartz, clarinet; Jonathan Clark, horn; Susan Shaw, bassoon; Eliezer Gutman, violin; Cameron Raecke, viola; Jameson Platte, cello, and Peter Paulsen, bass.

Even though we are in the middle of a world-

wide pandemic, I am thankful that we are still able to bring beautiful music to people in the Lehigh Valley and beyond. The COVID-19 restrictions have challenged all of us in the arts to be even more creative in how we present music to our community and what types of music we are able to perform. Having this wonderful opportunity to explore chamber music repertoire and to join our musicians to-

gether in smaller groups has empowered us to grow artistically as an orchestra.

Utilizing the internet and other means to get our concerts out to people has enabled us to expand the reach of the Allentown Symphony to include people from all over the United States and the world. I take great pride in how we have adapted as an organization and how the ASO musicians have embraced and

championed these changes in how we bring music to all of you.

I hope you enjoy this "All-Beethoven" concert featuring members of the Allentown Symphony Orchestra and all of our live-stream concerts in the future.

See you at the Symphony!

Information and to sign up for the live-stream concerts of the Allentown Symphony: <https://www.millersymphonyhall.org>

[millersymphonyhall.org](http://www.millersymphonyhall.org)

Diane Wittry is Music Director and Conductor of the Allentown Symphony Orchestra; Music Director and Conductor of The Garden State Philharmonic, New Jersey, and author of "Beyond the Baton" and "Baton Basics." She teaches conducting workshops throughout the United States and Europe.

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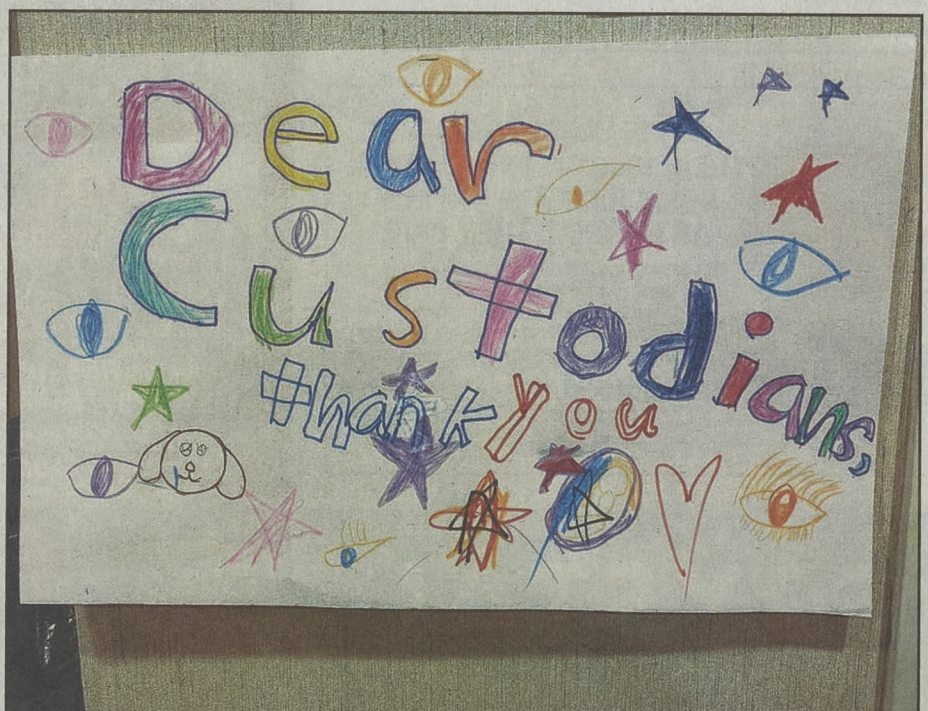
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St. Thomas More School students thank the custodians



Students at St. Thomas More School, 1040 Flexer Ave., Allentown, thank the custodians, calling them hardworking and dedicated. Messages included "Thank you for all you do at STM every day to clean every day and help stop the spread of COVID-19."

CONTRIBUTED PHOTOS
Custodians at St. Thomas More School are thanked by the students with these special posters; students call the custodians "heroes."

Costner, Lane give it a 'Go'

"Let Him Go" brings Kevin Costner and Diane Lane back to the big screen in a southern gothic thriller, by way of the great northwest, that has a plot twist as shocking as it is unexpected.

In "Let Him Go," it's Montana, 1963, and George Blackledge (Costner), a retired sheriff, and Margaret (Diane Lane), his wife, are concerned about the welfare of their grandson, Jimmy (Finn Lee-Epp), after the boy's father James (Ryan Bruce) dies when thrown from a horse.

George and Margaret's step-daughter, Lorna (Kayli Carter), remarries. Margaret witnesses the new husband, Donnie Weboy (Will Brittain), hit the step-daughter and grandson. Margaret is determined to travel to North Dakota to gain custody of the grandson.

That's when the trouble begins. You've heard of the adage, "The road to hell is paved with good intentions"? That aphorism could be the subtitle of "Let Him Go."

It seems everyone in the film makes bad decisions, either out of good intentions, fear or defensiveness. To go into details here would spoil the film for you. Suffice it to say, no good comes of any of their decisions.

The good that comes of "Let Him Go" is manifold. Most notably are the performances of Costner and Lane, who are a joy to watch as old pros who relish the prose of the screenplay.

Costner (Oscar recipient, actor, picture, "Dances with Wolves," 1990) has a weathered face and slow gait, but manages to evoke that rueful grin of his. Look for a possible Oscar actor nomination for Costner.

Lane (Oscar nominee, actress, "Unfaithful," 2003) is a good counter-balance to Costner. She's more talky, assertive and calculating. She's her own worst enemy. She's a whirlwind of one-mindedness, not realizing the path of damage wrought by her stormy emotions. Look for a possible Oscar actress nomination for Lane.

Lesley Manville, as the matriarch, Blanche Weboy, creates one of the scariest mommie dearest roles since Joan Crawford in "Mildred

AT THE MOVIES

By Paul Willistein
pwillistein@nonline.com



Pierce" (1945) and Angela Lansbury in "The Manchurian Candidate" (1962). Look for a possible Oscar supporting actress nomination for Manville.

Jeffrey Donovan ("Honest Thief," 2020) as one of Blanche's sons, Bill, creates a blandly scary persona.

Kayli Carter (TV's "Miss America," 2020, "Godless," 2017), as the step-daughter, Lorna Blackledge, is memorable for capturing a spirited vulnerability.

Thomas Bezucha directs from a screenplay he wrote based on a novel by Larry Watson. Stylistically, Bezucha ("Monte Carlo," 2011; "The Family Stone," 2005; "Big Eden," 2000) keeps a tight rein on the proceedings, not unlike the great director Clint Eastwood.

"Let Him Go" has the sense of an Eastwood masterwork, with a bit of the Hatfields & the McCoys (2012 miniseries in which Costner starred), the brutish violence of "In Cold Blood" (1967) and the quest for a person as in "The Searchers" (1956).

Bezucha bookends the film with wordless scenes that effectively mirror the promise and results of rash decision-making. The production design by Trevor Smith (TV's " Fargo," 2014 -) of authentic exteriors and interiors, along with an old green Dodge pickup and a tan 1958 Chevrolet station wagon, emphasizes the film's time and place.

The cinematography by director of photography Guy Godfree ("Maudie," 2016) depicts the splendor of the mountainous west in all its daunting glory.

The music by Michael Giacchino (Oscar, original score, "Up," 2009) skillfully builds the tension in this allegory.

"Let Him Go" is a disturbing film set in a time nearly 60 years ago when family matters were more the provenance of the wild, wild west than domestic relations court.

"Let Him Go," MPAA rated R (Restricted Under 17 requires

accompanying parent or adult guardian. Contains some adult material. Parents are urged to learn more about the film before taking their young children with them.) for violence; Genre: Crime, Drama, Thriller; Run Time: 1 hr. 54 min. Distributed by Focus Features.

Credit Readers Anonymous: "Let Him Go" was filmed in Alberta, Canada.

At the Movies: "Let Him Go" was seen at the Movie Tavern, Trexler-town with pandemic protocols in place.

Movie Box Office, Nov. 13-15, "Freaky" opened at No. 1 with \$3.7 million, on 2,472 screens, as "Let Him Go" dropped from No. 1 to No. 2, with \$1.8 million, on 2,458 screens, and \$6.8 million, two weeks.

3. "The War with Grandpa," starring Al-lentown's Oakes Fegley, stayed at No. 3 with \$1.3 million, on 2,145 screens, and \$15.2 million, six weeks. 4. "Come Play," starring Al-lentown's Winslow Fegley, dropped two places, with \$1.1 million, on 1,966 screens; \$7.3 million, three weeks. 5. "Honest Thief" dropped one place, \$800,000, on 1,843 screens; \$12.3 million, six weeks. 6. "Tenet" stayed in place, \$735,000, on 1,223 screens; \$56.3 million, 11 weeks. 7. "Guardians of the Galaxy," \$406,000, on 1,560 screens, one week, 2020 re-release. 8. "True to the Game 2," \$287,819, on 281 screens, \$610,710, two weeks. 9. "Toy Story," \$222,000, on 1,360 screens, \$727,000, two weeks, 2020 re-release. 10. "Elf," \$170,000, on 300 screens, \$173,568, one week, 2020 re-release.

Box office statistics are from Box Office Mojo.

Unreel, Nov. 20
"Jiu Jitsu," R: Dimitri Logothetis directs Nicolas Cage, Marie Avgeropoulos, Frank Grillo, Tony Jaa, Rick Yune, JuJu Chan and Alain Moussi in the Action Fantasy film. The new Science-Fiction Martial Arts franchise is from Dimitri Logothetis, Director of "Kickboxer: Retaliation."

"The Furies," No MPAA rating: Tony D'Aquino directs Airlie Dodds, Linda Ngo, Taylor Ferguson, Tom



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO COURTESY FOCUS FEATURES

Diane Lane (Margaret), Kevin Costner (George), "Let Him Go."

O'Sullivan and Steve Morris in the Action Horror Thriller. A kidnapped woman is forced to participate in a deadly game.

"The Last Vermeer," R: Dan Friedkin directs Daan Aufenacker, Claes Bang, Matt Beuman-Jones and Kim

Chapman in the Drama. An artist is accused of selling a valuable painting by Vermeer to the Nazis. The film is based on the book, "The Man Who Made Vermeers."

"Vanguard," No MPAA rating: Stanley Tong directs Jackie Chan, Yang Yang and

Miya Muqi in the Action film. An accountant targeted by a mercenary group seeks the protection of Vanguard, a security company.

Movie opening dates are from Internet Movie Database.



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CURTAIN

Continued from page B1

Civic Theatre of Allentown will present its third virtual concert of the season, "Thankful," 7:30 p.m. Nov. 19.

Area performers will sing. The emphasis is on "music that reflects on the good in our lives."

According to Diane Donaher, Civic Theatre administrative director, the concert is "about gratitude and the individual meaning of that for each performer."

"2020 has been a challenging year for all," she says. "Thankful" is a way to stop reflecting on what we have lost and to start recognizing what we still have."

Once tickets are purchased, the concert is viewable for 48 hours. The filmed concert will be available until Dec. 10.

Tickets:
www.civictheatre.secure.force.com/ticket#/instances/a0F1Y00001GIHX6U-AP

New children's musical live-stream
"Poppy & The Magic Tutu," an original children's musical by Kirsten Almeida, will live-stream, 7 p.m. Nov. 21.

Almeida, director of Star of the Day Productions, also will star in the show about Poppy, the dancing hippo.

The musical, filled with songs, choreography and jokes, is intended to teach children life lessons about friendship and working together.

The storyline in the 45-minute show is about finding Poppy's magic tutu and saving the circus. Characters include a joke-telling

bear, a tap-dancing lion, a singing monkey, the ring leader and Poppy's best friend.

The cast include Almeida, Jay Fuentes, Gabe Kutz, Jillian Petrie and Julisa Trinidad.

The link to the performance is:
<http://www.staroftheday.org/>

COVID-19

Continued from page B1

this policy can help us safely navigate this latest surge and hopefully assist our plans to return to normalized visitation practices as quickly as possible. The safety of our patients, visitors and staff is our No. 1 priority. People can help prevent the spread by:

- Wearing a mask in public
- Staying 6 feet apart
- Washing hands regularly
- Staying home when sick

We still have a long way to go in the fight against COVID-19. We will prevail by working together to stop the spread, stated the press release.

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Conceptis Sudoku

By Dave Green

9x9 Sudoku grid with some numbers filled in.

Difficulty Level ★★★

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Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers.

Answer to previous puzzle

9x9 grid with the solution to the previous puzzle.

Difficulty Level ★★★

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CRYPTOGRAM

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GRYI CYM CFMRXIN PIV TXPN RPUY TYI KDUYI MRY NPOY OXIDLYA, GDJJ MRYF TY AYKPAVYV PN IPOY-NIPLYN?

See solution on page B8

Today's Cryptoquip Clue: C equals P

PREMIER Crossword

By Frank A. Longo

GOOD THINGS ACROSS

- 1 "I don't know yet"
8 Order
15 "Amo, amas, I love —"
20 Plane pilot
21 Result of iron deficiency, to a Brit
22 "I Love Lucy" actress Vivian
23 Staying loyal despite adversity
25 Poet Lorde
26 The sun, in Spanish
27 Slimy slow movers
28 Actor Rex or singer James
29 Swing wildly, as one's arms
32 What the Union was for earth, in a Lincoln message
35 "I think," to texters
38 Really bother
40 TV studio alert
41 Gave the Red Cross some funds, e.g.
47 Something to scratch
51 Old politico Stevenson
52 Chuck Berry's "Johnny B. —"
53 Coral reef eel
54 Courage
61 Beach grit
63 "The Simpsons" store clerk
64 Bitter-ender
65 Pol with a six-yr. term
66 "A Death in the Family" author James
67 With 9-Down, "Paper Moon" child actress
70 Utah's — Canyon
71 "— girl!"
72 Pro-firearm org.
73 Rules established by legal precedent
75 Long Russian river
76 Fewer
77 The attorney general heads it
82 Glossy proof, for short
83 110-Across' high home
84 Ear-splitting
87 Helper: Abbr.
88 19th-century anti-alcohol fraternal society
94 Result in
96 Really bother
97 U.S. Army soldiers
98 Beatles song on the "White Album"
105 Dog restraint
107 Strike caller
108 "Coyote Ugly" actress Piper
110 "Bald" bird
114 Very, in music scores

15x15 crossword puzzle grid with numbers 1-115.

- 115 Christian set featured in this puzzle
119 Cerebrum's place
120 Helped criminally
121 Creates
122 Matches up, as sets of files
123 Have
124 Really should

DOWN

- 1 Stop sleeping
2 Stuntman Knievel
3 Whoppers
4 In the — luxury
5 Working overtime, e.g.
6 Centuries on end
7 Bit of work
8 Lyricist Sammy
9 See 67-Across
10 Mob group
11 Restaurant offerings
12 Love-in- (plant with feathery foliage)
13 Louse-to-be
14 Lah-di-
15 1972 Jack Lemmon film
16 Sidesplitter
17 Drug banned for Olympians, for short
18 Minor fight
19 Words on an F paper, maybe

- 24 Opening for a letter-shaped bolt
28 "My, my, old chap!"
30 Suffix with prop-
31 Ky. neighbor
33 Young guy, in hip-hop
34 Doc studying laryngitis
35 Wyo. neighbor
36 Hip '60s teen
37 Programs running in web browsers
39 Hanna-Barbera bear
42 "Live PD" network
43 Inmate
44 Two-time Wimbledon winner Lew
45 Improvise
46 Allude (to)
48 Committing to a fiduciary
49 Officers in training
50 Doglike scavengers
53 Prefix with afternoon
55 Really bother
56 Muscle jerk
57 One-on-one student
58 "Stop that, silly goose!"
59 Pool triangles
60 Yummy tidbit
61 Actress Bullock
62 Doesn't differ
68 Wrist-to-elbow bones
69 San —, California

- 71 Tinfoil giant
73 — -Magnon
74 Klingon officer of TV
78 Reviewer of paintings
79 Be suitable
80 Army wheels
81 For later use
85 — -fi film
86 "Of course"
88 "Of course"
89 Coll. in Columbus
90 Neighbor of TV's Homer
91 Brunch fruit
92 — -wee Herman
93 A Gabor
95 Chefs' tie-ons
98 Makes easier, with "down"
99 University in Atlanta
100 "Sounds like —!"
101 Sword types
102 Birds' refuges
103 Isle of Minos
104 Roof edges
106 Detested
109 Cots, e.g.
111 Holster fillers
112 Riga native, old-style
113 Rival of Petro-Canada
115 Spying tool
116 "Westworld" network
117 Actor Diesel
118 Suffix with serpent

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See solution on page B7

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Boxing Day extends holiday fun

The end of the year presents plenty of opportunities for shopping and celebrating. Starting with Thanksgiving preparations, there is a steady supply of days geared around generosity and merriment, counting down to the holiday gifting and entertaining season. Black Friday, Small Business Saturday and all of the weekends preceding Christmas are prime opportunities to snag discounts and deals. However, for those in Canada, Australia and the United Kingdom, gift-giving doesn't cease with the passing of Christmas.

Boxing Day, which falls the day after Christmas, has nothing to do with bringing empty gift boxes out to the recycling bin. While it has transformed into another day to grab seasonal deals, Boxing Day has historically served as a day to give to the less fortunate.

During the Victorian era in Britain, servants were not given off on Christmas Day because they had to work during their



While it has transformed into another day to grab seasonal deals, Boxing Day has historically served as a day to give to the less fortunate.

employers' celebrations. Therefore, they were allowed off the following day - December 26 - to spend time with their own families. The holiday became standard practice in 1871. Boxing

Day may have gotten its moniker from wealthy people who would give their employees boxes filled with small gifts, Christmas dinner leftovers and money as recognition for their service. Others believe it refers to alms boxes placed in churches for the collection of donations for the poor.

December 26 also is the feast day of St. Stephen, the patron saint of horses, so Boxing Day has been tied to sporting events involving horses. This includes horse races and fox hunts.

Even though the British established early residency in America, the Boxing Day tradition did not travel over to the colonies from England. However, Canadians and other former British strongholds celebrate it as a public holiday. Offices are closed and public transportation may run on holiday schedules.

Boxing Day is yet another end-of-year opportunity to share gifts and well wishes with loved ones and the less fortunate.

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Safety tips when giving kids electric toys

Youngsters' eyes light up each holiday season at the sight of toys. Gift-giving during the holiday season is practiced by people of various faiths and backgrounds, and the joy of giving is only increased when witnessing the excited children unwrap gifts.

Though no gift giver wants to imagine children being hurt while playing with their toys, it's important that adults recognize the dangers posed by certain toys. Regulations mandating the safe production of electric toys have been in place for decades, but the risk of injury remains. The Consumer Product

Safety Commission recognizes that threat and offers the following tips to consumers who intend to give children electric toys this holiday season.

· Heed the age recommendations. The CPSC notes that children should never be given toys, including electric toys, that are made for older kids. The idea that kids "will grow into it" may entice some consumers to ignore age recommendations, but that only puts youngsters at risk. Age recommendations are the minimum age children should be before they play with a toy.

· Consider kids' maturity levels. Children ma-

ture at different paces, so even kids who meet or exceed the minimum age listed on the package may not necessarily be capable of safely playing with the electric toy. To determine if a child is mature enough for a given toy, consumers can consult with the child's parents or, if buying for their own children, pay particular attention to how the child plays with age-appropriate toys he or she already has. If the child tends to gravitate toward toys designed for younger children, he or she might not yet be ready for electric toys designed for his or her age.

· Carefully and clearly explain the toy to children. Before allowing a child to play with a new electric toy, parents should carefully read the instructions and then read them aloud to their children. Play with the child when he or she uses the toy until you are

confident the youngster understands the toy and how to operate it safely. The CPSC recommends parents always supervise children when they're using electric toys and make sure that toys that must be plugged into the wall fit snugly into the outlets. Prevent electrical shock by ensuring prongs are never exposed.

· Store toys safely. Safe storage also is vital to prevent electric toy-related injuries. Store electric toys in dry areas that are not accessible to children.

· Inspect toys regularly. Routine inspections of electric toys can alert parents to broken parts, frayed cords and/or damage to enclosures of wiring and other protected components. If parts like batteries or bulbs need to be replaced, make sure children know that only adults are allowed to replace them.

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Shop safely this Cyber Monday

Cyber Monday is a lucrative day for retailers. According to Adobe Analytics, which measured transactions from a majority of popular online retailers in the United States, consumers spent an average of \$11 million per minute between 11 p.m. EST and midnight EST on Cyber Monday in 2019. And it wasn't just the final hour of Cyber Monday that proved popular, as total sales in 2019 increased by roughly 19 percent compared to Cyber Monday a year prior.

The internet has made holiday shopping easier than ever, and retailers capitalize on that convenience every year on Cyber Monday. Savvy consumers recognize there's great deals to be had on Cyber Monday, but the popular shopping holiday also marks a great time for cyber criminals to target unsuspecting online shoppers.

Holiday shoppers spend more time and money buying gifts online every year, so before the buying season begins it's wise for shoppers to consider a few strategies for



Before the buying season begins it's wise for shoppers to consider a few strategies for shopping safely this Cyber Monday.

See **CYBER MONDAY** on Page 7

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CYBER MONDAY

Continued from page 6
shopping safely this Cyber Monday.

Beware of malvertising. In recent years, cyber criminals have employed malvertising to trick online shoppers into taking them to websites that look reputable. But looks can be deceiving. Malvertising injects malicious code into legitimate online advertising networks. If consumers accidentally click a malicious ad, the malvertising can trigger a code that installs malware or adware on their computers, redirect users to a malicious website instead of the one the ad suggests or redirect users to a website that looks just like a legitimate retailer's site, even though it's not. Update antivirus and ad blockers prior to Cyber Monday. In addition, update browsers and plugins, which can often prevent malvertising attacks.

Update your software. Skipping or delaying software updates on a computer, tablet or smartphone can make online shoppers vulnerable to hackers and other cyber criminals. Install new operating systems on your devices when such updates become available, and

check to see if any new updates can be installed before shopping on Cyber Monday.

Avoid searching through search engines. When shopping, resist the temptation to look for deals through search engines. Cyber criminals can insert malicious links into search results, directing unsuspecting to consumers to malicious websites designed to target their personal information. When looking for deals, visit the websites of established retailers instead of conducting searches through browsers like Google or Firefox.

Read a URL before buying anything. One old yet still effective trick cyber criminals employ is creating websites that look identical to those of trusted retailers. These copycat sites may only be one letter different from legitimate sites. By reading URLs closely prior to entering any personal information, such as their credit card numbers, consumers can protect themselves from copycat websites.

Cyber Monday is a popular shopping holiday. Cyber Monday shoppers should be as cautious about cyber criminals as they are excited about finding great gifts for their loved ones.

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How small businesses can capitalize on Black Friday

Millions of small businesses have had a difficult year in 2020. As the novel coronavirus COVID-19 spread across the globe, governments all over the world took unprecedented measures to prevent the virus from claiming more lives. Public health measures like social distancing undoubtedly saved lives, but small businesses bore the brunt of the economic impact of such measures.

According to the National Bureau of Economic Research, the number of active business owners decreased by 22 percent from February to April 2020. A Brookings analysis of Opportunity Insights Economic Tracker data found that, compared to January 2020, small businesses in North Dakota, Washington, D.C. and Hawaii experienced See **BLACK FRIDAY** on Page 9



The following are some strategies small businesses can employ to make this Black Friday as lucrative as possible.

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BLACK FRIDAY

Continued from page 8

60 percent decline in revenue between mid-March and mid-May. In the wake of such challenges, many small businesses have been forced to shutter. For those that have managed to stay afloat, the upcoming holiday season could prove vital to their survival.

Black Friday is the day after Thanksgiving and marks the unofficial beginning of the holiday shopping season. It's a day when consumer spending annually reaches into the billions of dollars. For example, Adobe Analytics reported that Black Friday shoppers spent a record \$7.4 billion in 2019. Capitalizing on Black Friday in 2020 can help small businesses generate a substantial amount of revenue in a year that has been chock full of financial challenges. The following are some strategies small businesses can employ to make this Black Friday as lucrative as possible.

· **Connect with the locals.** In recognition of the economic challenges faced by small busi-

nesses in 2020, local chambers of commerce have gone to great lengths to encourage residents to shop local as economies have slowly reopened. Residents have responded to such efforts, and small businesses can do their part by making concerted efforts to connect with locals in advance of Black Friday. Advertise Black Friday sales in local newspapers and join your local chamber of commerce in encouraging shop local efforts on Black Friday.

· **Open early.** In an effort to promote social distancing, some big box retailers have announced changes to their Black Friday strategies. Those changes may include more limited store hours and later openings. Local small business owners can capitalize on such strategical shifts by opening their stores early on Black Friday without compromising social distancing guidelines. Place a sign outside your store that highlights your early opening but also reminds customers of your mask and social distancing policy. Thank customers in advance for adhering to your policy and for bringing much-needed revenue

to your business.

· **Optimize your mobile site.** Lines are the norm on a typical Black Friday, but they might be even longer this year as small businesses minimize the number of people they allow in their store at one time. By optimizing their mobile sites in advance of Black Friday, small business owners can ensure shoppers waiting online have access to what's inside the store even before they enter. That can make it easier to wait on line and ease customers' concerns about spending too much time inside the store.

· **Emphasize your status as a small business.** The pandemic will no doubt compel many Black Friday shoppers to avoid crowded malls and big box stores in 2020. Small business owners can use their status as small businesses to their advantage by reminding customers their showrooms are small and easily controlled.

Small businesses may be struggling in 2020. But Black Friday is a golden opportunity for small businesses to recoup some of the revenue they've lost in a challenging year.



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The fabric of Plaid Friday

The holiday season sometimes arrives with a frenetic pace. At the dawn of the holiday season, there seems to be so much to fit into a relatively short period of time, including planning celebrations and shopping. The rush often begins the Friday after American Thanksgiving on a day called Black Friday.

Plaid Friday was born out of a recognition that the frenzied nature of Black Friday may not be for everyone. The event was created in Oakland, Calif., to transform holiday shopping for family and friends into a more connected, pleasurable activity than Black Friday. Plaid Friday promotes the diversity and creativity of local and independent businesses. On Plaid Friday, customers are urged to shop locally and enjoy choosing gifts in a more leisurely fashion.

According to event organizers, the name "Plaid Friday" was chosen from the idea of weaving individual



On Plaid Friday, customers are urged to shop locally and enjoy choosing gifts in a more leisurely fashion.

threads of small businesses together to create a strong fabric that celebrates independent businesses. While Plaid Friday may have originated in California, it has now spread to local towns across the country. Plaid Friday precedes Small Business Saturday, meaning holiday shoppers can turn their two-day, post-Thanksgiving shopping excursions into 48 hours of opportunities to support small businesses.

Shoppers have many

different ways to support the Plaid Friday movement.

- Look for signage or social media advertising regarding Plaid Friday. Many establishments may advertise Plaid Friday sales. Keep an eye out for signs or hashtags on social media, such as #plaidfriday, #shoplocal and #dinelocal.

- Let others know you're supporting local businesses. Spread the word about Plaid Friday to others who may not be aware of the movement.

- Wear plaid clothing on Plaid Friday to show local business solidarity.

- Search community blotters and other local websites to find out more about Plaid Friday efforts in your community.

- Certain shops may have scaled-back sales due to COVID-19 restrictions. Continue to support these businesses as much as possible, taking advantage of curbside pickup or delivery options that can further streamline holiday shopping.

- Explore new offerings. Some businesses you frequently shop with may have altered their services and products to fit the changing times. As a result, you may be able to purchase a greater variety of items all in one store.

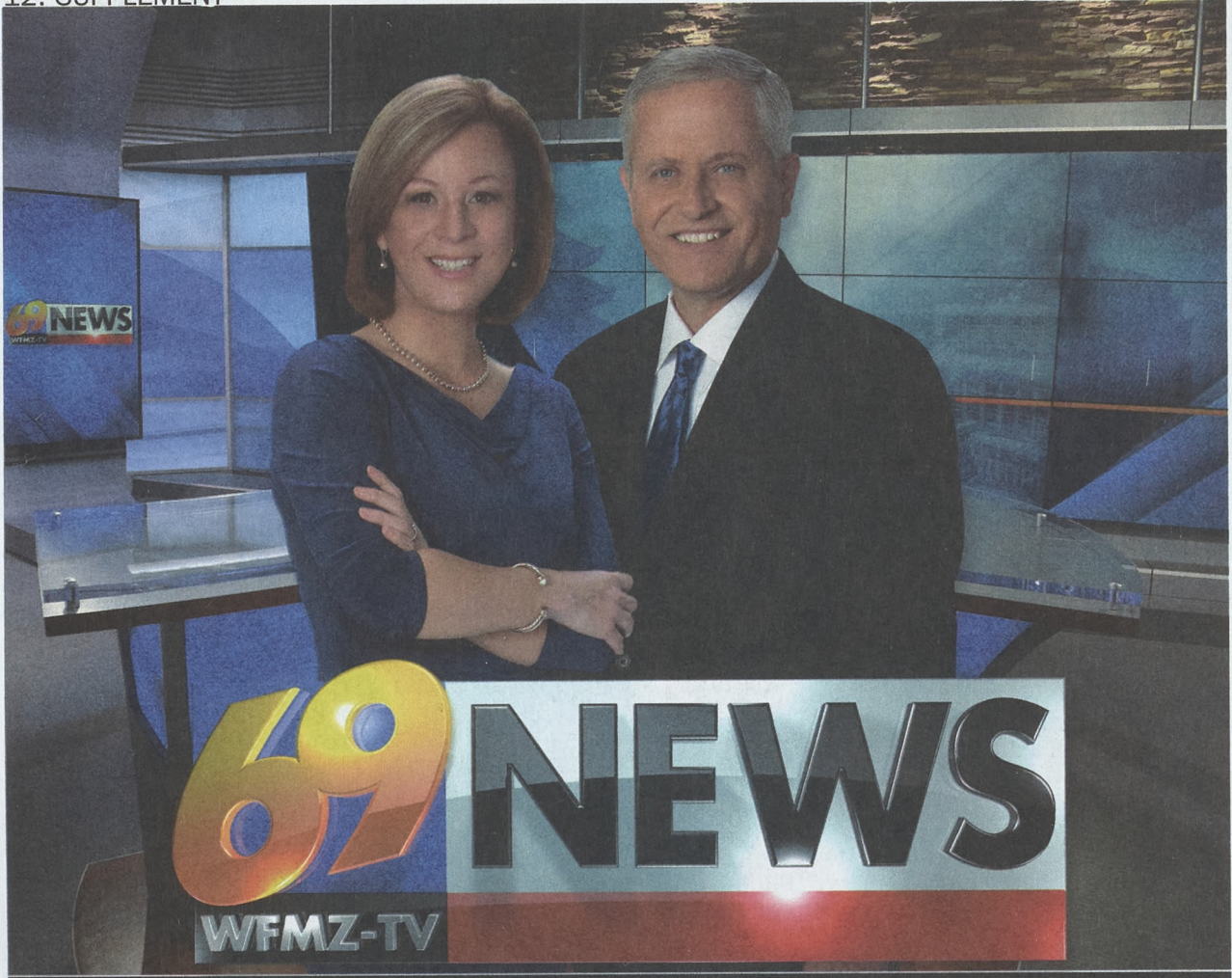
Local shopping is at the heart of Plaid Friday. Shoppers who want to avoid the typical rush of Black Friday shopping can visit small local businesses.

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Simple ways to prolong the life of poinsettias

The red foliage on poinsettias are actually modified leaves called bracts. The flowers are the small, yellow buds in the center of the plant.

Poinsettias and their rich red, white or variegated color schemes are the ideal backdrop for Christmas celebrations. In fact, poinsettias are among the most popular decorative flowers during the holiday season.

According to the 2013 USDA Floriculture Statistics report, poinsettias accounted for about one-quarter (23 percent) of all flowering potted plant sales that year. Roughly 34 million poinsettia plants are sold in a given season. Indigenous to Central America, the plant was introduced to North America in the 1820s when Joel Roberts Poinsett, the first United States Minister to Mexico, brought the red-and-green plant back with him from a trip abroad.

While millions of poinsettias will be purchased for the holiday season, many mistakenly

think their utility ends once New Year's Day has come and gone. But with proper care poinsettia plants can continue to thrive and bring warmth and beauty to a home long after the holiday decorations have been tucked away.

- Choose a hearty plant. Experts with the University of Vermont Extension Department of Plant and Soil Science say that many people mistake the plant's leaves for its flowers. The red, white or pink bracts are actually modified leaves. The flowers of the plant are the yellow clustered buds in the center called "cyathia." Choose poinsettia plants that have buds which are, ideally, not yet open.

- Keep the temperature consistent. Poinsettias prefer a room temperature between 60 and 68 F during the day and 10 degrees cooler at night. Humidity levels between 20 and 50 percent are ideal. Group plants on water-filled trays full of pebbles to help increase humidity levels.

- Place near sunlight. The

United Kingdom-based Perrywood floral company advises placing poinsettia plants near a bright windowsill but not in direct sunlight. Do not let a poinsettia touch cold window panes.

- Avoid drafts. The plants are sensitive to drafts and changes in temperature. So it's best to keep poinsettias away from drafty doors, windows, radiators, or fireplaces.

- Don't drown the roots. Wait until the surface of the compost dries out before watering the plant anew. Also, the decorative foil wrapper that covers pots can trap water and lead to root rot. Remove it or poke holes in the bottom to allow for drainage.

- Cut back plants. Come mid-March, cut back the plant by half to encourage new shoots, suggests the University of Illinois Extension. The plants also can be placed outside in the spring after the risk of frost has passed. Bring poinsettias back in around mid-September to early October to force them to bloom again.

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How to plan virtual office parties

Holiday parties are a tradition at many businesses.

As popular as holiday office parties may be, few businesses are likely to gather in person this holiday season as the world continues to confront the challenges posed by the COVID-19 pandemic. Social distancing guidelines may put many holiday office parties on indefinite hold, but there are still ways for employees to gather this holiday season.

Virtual meeting apps like Zoom have helped many businesses stay connected during the pandemic, and there's no reason why the same platform cannot be utilized when hosting virtual office parties this holiday season. While it might not be the same as planning in person holiday office parties, planning a virtual office get-together can still capture the spirit of the holiday season.

Encourage festive backgrounds. Backgrounds have taken on special meaning as people limit their interactions to video calls. Virtual holiday party organizers can encourage employees to decorate their backgrounds in traditional holiday colors to give the virtual party an authentic holiday feel.

Send special care packages to employees. Various companies have helped make virtual happy hours more unique by offering virtual happy hour kits, and such kits can be created and shipped to



While it might not be the same as planning in person holiday office parties, planning a virtual office get-together can still capture the spirit of the holiday season.

employees with a holiday theme in mind. Such kits may include snacks, the ingredients necessary to whip up special beverages like eggnog and even some party favors. Company presidents can then propose a toast during the party and express their appreciation to all the hard work employees have put in during what's proven to be a very challenging year.

Take the day off. Holiday office parties often take place after office hours. Since that might not be doable when everyone is working from home, host the virtual holiday party on a company-wide off day. Schedule the party for midday and then encourage everyone to hang around on the

video call and chat for as long as they'd like. Such calls can be a great time for everyone to catch up and unwind without having to worry about going back to work once the call ends.

Cater the party. Dinner is often served at traditional holiday office parties, and while it may require some logistical maneuvering, employers can still provide employees with meals. If employees all live in the same general vicinity, arrange for individually prepared meals to be delivered to their homes. If employees are more spread out, employers can offer to reimburse them for meals they eat during the virtual get-together.



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12/18 Vs Northampton
12/20 Vs William Allen
12/22 At Stroudsburg
01/02 Vs Pottsville
01/05 At Dieruff
01/07 Vs Parkland
01/09 At Pocono Mtn. East
01/12 Vs Bethlehem Catholic
01/15 At Freedom
01/16 Vs Crestwood
01/19 Vs Easton
01/22 At Allentown Central Catholic
01/26 Vs East Stroudsburg N.
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02/02 At Bethlehem Catholic
02/05 Vs Freedom
02/08 At Easton

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01/15 Vs Freedom
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01/19 At Easton
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