

Milton honors outstanding students.

See page 2.



Warrior Run boys stun Mount Carmel in D4 Class 3A quarterfinals.

See page 12.



Daily Thought

“THERE IS NOTHING MORE HORRIFYING THAN STUPIDITY IN ACTION.”
— ADLAI E. STEVENSON, AMERICAN POLITICIAN AND DIPLOMAT (1900-1965).

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STEM students shine at CSIU regional competition

BY KEVIN MERTZ
The Standard-Journal

MILTON — Situated to the rear of the Lewisburg Area High School is a walking trail specifically designed to be used by those who are visually impaired.

A group of students from the school believe that concept can be incorporated on a larger scale, to give those with visu-

STEM students, Page A4



BY KEVIN MERTZ/THE STANDARD-JOURNAL

Jennaye Pointer, a Lewisburg Area High School student, displayed ropes and braille plaques used in a proposed ‘Braille’ Trail she and classmates presented during Thursday’s Regional STEM Competition.



BY KEVIN MERTZ/THE STANDARD-JOURNAL

From left, Milton Area High School STEM team advisor Natalie Myers-Easton, with students Ashley Shamblen, Seth Yoder, Ephraim Langdon, Dillan Guinn-Bailey and Nicholas Fleck stood by a prototype kevar window curtain which they developed for Thursday’s Regional STEM Competition.

St. Clair spouse has doubts about crime

BY MATT FARRAND
The Standard-Journal

LEWISBURG — The spouse of a man who pleaded no contest in Union County Court to a sex crime had her say on Thursday.

Pauline St. Clair, wife of Stanley D. St. Clair Sr., of Lewisburg, maintained the time frame for the felony count her husband pleaded to was incorrect. The prosecution noted it was from

December 2006 to December 2007, but St. Clair claimed he was ailing at the time and unlikely able to do what he was accused of for a variety of reasons.

“From (2006) to (2008) he was in the hospital off and on for back surgery,” St. Clair said. “I have papers stating he was unable to bend, lift his legs or anything like that.”

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BY KEVIN MERTZ/THE STANDARD-JOURNAL

Warrior Run Middle School sixth-grade students are completing activities related to Ancient Egypt this week. From left, while dressed in Egyptian clothing McKenna Forman and Mackenzie Heyler worked on an activity.

WR celebrates ‘Egyptian Days’

BY KEVIN MERTZ
The Standard-Journal

TURBOTVILLE — Weeks of studies about the Ancient Egyptian culture are culminating this week at the Warrior Run Middle School with cross-curricular activities which

Egyptian Days, Page A3

Coronavirus impact also economic SU prof weighs what could be ahead

BY MATT FARRAND
The Standard-Journal

SELINGSGROVE — The economic impact of the Coronavirus, even if the spread of the virus and fatalities level off soon, could be complex.

So noted Dr. Matt Rousu, dean of the Sig-mund Weis School of Business at Susque-hanna University. He said



DR. MATT ROUSU

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FRACKING DEBATE CAUSES TREMORS IN BATTLEGROUND PA. SEE PAGE 5.

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STEM students

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al impairments the opportunity to enjoy time out in nature.

"The Braille Trail" was presented by five Lewisburg students during a Regional STEM Competition, held Thursday at the Central Susquehanna Intermediate Unit (CSIU).

In addition to Lewisburg, students from Milton, Shamokin, Central Columbia and Mid-West participated in the competition, which focused on science, technology, engineering and math skills.

The team from Mid-West, comprised of students Gabriel Drumheller, Nicholas Eppley, Stefan Leitzel and Aidan Steininger took first-place honors.

Tanya Dynda, a CSIU instructional technology STEM specialist, said the winners will advance to a statewide competition, to be held May 7-8 in Harrisburg.

Thursday's competition was open to teams of up to five students, in grades nine through 12, in schools served by the CSIU.

"It's a very general theme," Dynda said, while describing the competition. "They have to find a problem they feel exists in Pennsylvania."

After identifying the problem, students were tasked with developing a project to address the issue.

"Each team received \$500 to build a prototype," Dynda said. "They have to write a proposal. They have to present their prototype to a panel of judges."

The team from Mid-West, Dynda said, developed a handheld device which can scan an individual's vital signs.

The winning team will receive \$750 in order to improve their project in time for the statewide competition.

Each team worked for several months to develop their concept.

"Our project is 'The Braille Trail,'" Olivia Meyer, a Lewisburg student, explained. "It's an outdoor walking trail for visually impaired people."

On the trail, those with visual impairments are to follow a rope which guides their steps. At various points on the trail are plaques with braille writing, which highlight features along the path.

"We have one right now behind the high school," Meyer said, of the trail. "We would like to expand it to the Buffalo Valley Rail Trail or other schools in the area."

Student Jennaye Pointer said plaques along the school's trail were made with a 3D printer donated by the Green Dragon Foundation.

The braille writing on the plaques was created using a computer program, and proofed by an individual

who reads braille.

In addition to Meyer and Pointer, other members of Lewisburg's team included Liam Cummings, Emma Freeman and Alisa Lo.

While Lewisburg students focused on helping the visually impaired, Milton Area High School students designed a project to enhance school safety.

"We created a bulletproof curtain that can be incorporated into classrooms and possibly businesses," student Ashley Shamblen explained.

During a security drill, student advisor Natalie Myers-Easton said students realized school windows which were not covered could be vulnerable in the event of an armed intruder entering the building.

By equipping classroom windows with kevlar curtains, student Nicholas Fleck said safety will be enhanced for students.

"An active shooter cannot shoot into a classroom as easily," he said.

The students who crafted the curtain consulted with professionals on the project.

"We got some input from the school resource officer," Shamblen said.

In addition to Shamblen and Fleck, other Milton students who participated included Seth Yoder, Ephraim Langdon and Dylan Guinn-Bailey.

Shamokin students Joshua Bashore, Zigmund Moraski, Collin Duganitz, Danille Hinkle and Jaden Kodack proposed adding WiFi hot spots in their community as well as developing a fitness app.

"We worked over a span of two months to figure everything out," Bashore explained. "Technology is the way of the future."

Central Columbia students presented a carbon dioxide detector capable of opening a garage door if dangerous levels are detected.

In addition to presenting their projects, students were tasked on Thursday with developing a small structure capable of withstanding an earthquake.

Dynda said students were scored on that task so judges could see how well they worked together.

Pennsylvania Army National Guard Sgt. First Class Jeff Kwiecien was also in attendance at the competition.

He said the Pennsylvania Army National Guard is hosting the regional competitions across the state.

"It's quite remarkable, the creativity that some of these students have, it's inspiring," Kwiecien said. "We hope to show them we promote this type of creativity... We need creative people in our ranks."

Staff writer Kevin Mertz can be reached at 570-742-9671 or email kevin@standard-journal.com.

Appeals court hears arguments in corruption case

PITTSBURGH (AP) — A defense attorney for a sheriff accused of corruption has told Pennsylvania appeals court judges that his client should not be tried again after his first case ended in a mistrial.

Former Westmoreland County Sheriff Jonathan Held is now a private citizen, and his attorney Ryan Tuteria told the Superior Court judges that there is not enough evidence from the first trial to warrant a second, the Pittsburgh Tribune-Review reported Tuesday.

Held is accused of instructing on-duty staffers to participate in reelection campaign activities. Prosecutors said uniformed deputies solicited items for political fundraisers, used office computers to catalog donations and assigned staff-

ers to tasks that advertised reelection efforts in 2015.

Jurors found Held guilty of a felony count of conflict of interest and a misdemeanor theft charge. However, the verdict was negated after a juror publicly rescinded their vote. A mistrial was then declared in December 2018.

Senior Deputy Attorney General William Stoycos said the case should be allowed to continue since some jurors found there was enough evidence to convict Held.

"The question the court must ask is does the evidence empower any rational juror to find we could not prove guilt beyond a reasonable doubt. In this case, all but one juror voted guilty," Stoycos said.

The appeals court judges will rule at a later date.

Body burned beyond recognition found in station wagon

PHILADELPHIA (AP) — A body burned beyond recognition was found in a station wagon early Thursday in the city's Logan section.

Firefighters found the vehicle engulfed in flames and it took them about 10 minutes to put out the fire, authorities said.

That's when firefighters discovered the body on the front passenger seat.

"It's actually laying on its back with its head down by the floor board and its feet facing the rear of the vehicle. So that is unusual," said Philadelphia Police Chief Inspector Scott Small.

"You can't determine whether or not this body is a male or female. You can't tell the age because it's completely burned," Small said.

Police were reviewing surveillance video for clues.

St. Clair

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St. Clair added that the victim and her family were close.

"They would call if they needed something done like changing a light bulb or a snake in the yard. They would call my husband to go over," St. Clair said. "We took (the victim) to concerts, we took her to the stores. We took her to the beer garden to get cigarettes for her mom."

St. Clair said they also shared church dinners, church services and other events. The victim's silence, she added, made the accusations puzzling.

"For something like that to happen, why did she continue to do this?" St. Clair asked. "And the counselor she had all these years, why didn't she tell her?"

St. Clair maintained the allegations against her husband only arose after the victim's mom died and a new counselor had the victim as a client.

"That's questions that everybody's asking," St. Clair added. "Why did she wait?"

St. Clair contacted The Standard-Journal Thursday afternoon and noted attorney Michael O'Donnell was

trying to reduce her husband's sentence. They were originally from Danville, she noted, were high school sweethearts and have been married 47 years.

Stanley St. Clair avoided a jury trial by pleading no contest. Dozens of other felony and misdemeanor counts were dismissed. He was free on \$150,000 bail but faces a prison sentence of from three to 10 years, a \$25,000 fine or both.

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Coronavirus

FROM PAGE A1

supply-chain problems were already popping up for a host of well-known businesses with ties to China.

Among them were Apple Inc., the technology company, which announced it would not meet its quarterly revenue forecast due to the impact of the virus on its suppliers in China.

Apparel makers and footwear companies have been similarly affected. Adidas, the German-based athletic brand, reported an 85% sales decline since Jan. 25 in China.

China is also a market for American-based brands, Rousu observed, a fact which to date has been somewhat overlooked.

"There are 1.8 billion people," he observed. "If they are not out buying as much, that is actually a negative

impact on the flip side."

There are also issues with travel and other economic sectors which could be disrupted.

Where it could go from here depends on the spread of the virus.

"If it gets contained, at least in the next few weeks, I think this will be a relatively minor blip, at least to the United States," he said. "Could our (Gross Domestic Product) dip a little bit, sure."

The chances of the illness spreading worldwide were unknown to date, Rousu said. Uncertainty, the bane of markets and business, can also spread.

"Right now, the State Department has put the same rating for travel for China as we put on for Syria or North Korea. Do not trav-

el, that's how severe it is," he said. "What happens if that expands to the rest of Asia?"

Saying Coronavirus could lead to a global recession sounded dramatic, Rousu said. But it it spreads as widely as some have stated, the economic impact could be global.

The virus originated in wildlife near Wuhan, China and is widely believed to have spread first from an open-air market. To date, more than 75,000 cases have been reported in China, with more than 2,230 deaths. Much of the country is reportedly on some form of lockdown.

Fifteen cases have been confirmed in the United States. An American in Wuhan has died.

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