



# WPKL-FM

## Quarterly Issues/Programs List

2016 – Q-2 Quarter

**FOREVER**  
*MEDIA*

07-06-16

Issue	Program/Title	Date	Time	Length	Description
Fayette	Morning show	4-22-16	8:50am	3:22	Interviewed Teresa Rouse

County Food Bank	with Keilbasi Kid					from the Fayette County Community Action Agency about their Empty Bowls Campaign that was going to be held on 4-22-16 to raise money for the Fayette County Community Food Bank
Butterfiles of Hope Cancer Awareness	Morning show with Kielbasa Kid	4-29-16		8:50am	6:14	A comedy benefit was held at the State Theater in Uniontown to benefit Butterflies of Hope whose goal is to provide financial, emotional, and logistical support to children with life threatening health conditions, primarily juvenile cancer and talked with benefit organizer Adam Lucidi.
CFCC	Pickle Spotlight	6-19-16		7:05am	7:30	Talked with Clara Pascoe of the Community Foundation of Fayette County a non profit organization that helps guid donors with charitable giving and provides support to nonprofits to also include a leadership role in assessing and responding to the counties needs and brining donorss together for colaborative approches to problem solving
FCCAA	Pickle Spotlight	6-26-16		7:05am	5:44	Talked with Crystal Barnhardt of the Fayette County Community Action Agency about the work they do for the commuity from the Meals on Wheels program to the Fayette county food bank and various services the agency does for residents of Fayette County
Crash Victims Benefit	Morning show with the Kielbasa Kid	6-23-16	6-24-16	6:50 8:50	3:54	Talked with Lynne Baughman who organized a fund raiser for the Schuler Family who's 4 members were all airlifted to area

hospitals following a Mothers Day car accident. The Benefit was to be held on Saturday June 25<sup>th</sup> at the East Huntingdon Fireman's club in Tarrs Pa. Featuring music, food, games, Chinese auction with all proceeds going to help in the rehabilitation of the family victims of the accident .

Fayette County Food Bank Disaster Relief	130 30 second public service announcements were aired.	6-21-16 to 6-30-16	The psa's were aired at various times during the broadcast day	:30	On-air announcements bringing attention to the flood that devastated the Fayette County Food Bank facility and seeking donations to replenish the food that was destroyed due to the flooding.
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The following Issues have been determined to have been of importance and concern to listeners within the Station's City of License during the past three months. These issues were found to be significant and, for these Issues, the Program Issues Responses were broadcast to inform, explain, promote/advocate a position on or report on these Issues. The Issues in the List on this page are listed in an alphabetical sequence for convenience only, not as a ranking by importance of any factor. The attached List of Issue Program Responses is listed in a Time Sequence because of the time-sensitivity of the issues, not as a ranking by importance or significance to the listeners or the station management.

Pgm Type: News Actualities

4/1/16

Police are investigating a rape near Ohiopyle State Park. The victim claims she was sexually assaulted and left stranded by a man she met at Candy's Caddyshack bar in Uniontown Wednesday night. A park employee found the woman walking down the road near the Tharp Knob Picnic Area yesterday morning.

The presidential candidates are focusing on Pennsylvania. Bernie Sanders was in Pittsburgh yesterday, introducing himself to the state and laying out his stance on many of the major issues. Today, John Kasich and Ted Cruz will be in the Midstate.

A residential oil tank is being blamed for a fuel spill into Hanna's Run. The tank collapsed yesterday and released the fuel. A hazardous materials team used pads to absorb the oil from the water. The Pennsylvania Fish Commission and the state Department of Environmental Protection have also been notified.

A former Greensburg doctor, accused of offering pills to a 15-year-old girl in exchange for cash or sex, is claiming he was entrapped. Robert Franzino waived his preliminary hearing yesterday and will now stand trial, although his lawyer claims the evidence "will bear out a completely different story." Franzino was arrested last month after allegedly setting up a sexual encounter with the victim. Franzino lost his medical license in 2002 after pleading guilty to insurance fraud and violating drug laws.

4/4/16

An 82-year-old Dunbar Township man, charged with attempting to rape his home healthcare worker, is dead. John Owade was scheduled to enter a plea yesterday, but his lawyer informed the judge that he had passed away. Owade was accused of sexually assaulting the woman during a scheduled visit in July.

A Latrobe man is facing charges for allegedly assaulting a police officer. Witnesses say Thomas Woitkowiak repeatedly kicked the detective Tuesday during his arrest at a Dell Way home. Officers were originally called to the scene for a report of an assault. The victim had multiple injuries and claimed Woitkowiak had inflicted them.

Hillary Clinton is coming to town. The Democratic presidential hopeful will be in Pittsburgh on Wednesday, although the exact location has not been announced. The Pennsylvania primary is April 26th.

A three car crash is under investigation in Westmoreland County. It happened near Helen School Road on Route 31 in Donegal, yesterday evening. Injuries were reported following the crash, however the number of victims is unclear.

Miners are rallying over retirees' healthcare and pension benefits. Thousands marched more than a mile down Route 21 to the Greene County Fairgrounds Friday to show their support. Alpha Natural Resources filed to

break their contract with 580 union employees at the company's Cumberland Mine last week, which would end its pension contributions and reduce its obligation for retiree healthcare benefits.

The owner of the 84 Lakes property in Eighty-Four is being investigated for alleged illegal activity. The Fish and Boat Commission began looking for Asian carp in Dennis Wilcher's ponds last week. The fish are considered an invasive species and are illegal in Pennsylvania. They were first found on the property in 2014. Wilcher also is charging people to fish, which is not legal.

Police are investigating a report of a suspicious person near Frazier Elementary School. Officers were called to the school last week after someone reported a man with a gun near the property. The school was locked down while the area was searched, but no one was found.

A Latrobe attorney now holds the Iditarod record for traveling by foot on the northern route of the race. Tim Hewitt crossed a thousand miles of wilderness in the Iditarod Trail Invitational in Alaska last month, finishing in 19 days, nine hours and 38 minutes. Hewitt also holds the record for traveling by foot on the southern route. He has done the event nine times since 2001.

April marks National Volunteer Month, and the American Red Cross is encouraging people to take part by donating blood. More than three-million people donated blood through the organization last year.

4/5/16

A Westmoreland County woman is facing child endangerment and drug charges. Jeannette police responded around 2 a.m. Sunday for a report of a toddler outside without proper clothing. Officers found various drugs in Tricia Sperry's purse. The child is in the custody of a relative and county children and youth services agencies have been contacted.

Country music legend Dolly Parton is coming to Pittsburgh. Her "Pure and Simple" tour includes the Consol Energy Center on June 28th. Tickets are going on sale Saturday at 10 a.m. Details are available online at [consolenergycenter.com](http://consolenergycenter.com).

The price of gas in the Keystone State is four-cents higher than a week ago. [PennsylvaniaGasPrices.com](http://PennsylvaniaGasPrices.com) reports it's two-dollars-18-cents a gallon. The national average is two-dollars-five-cents a gallon.

A Westmoreland County woman is facing child endangerment and drug charges. Jeannette police responded around 2 a.m. Sunday for a report of a toddler outside without proper clothing. Officers found various drugs in Tricia Sperry's purse. The child is in the custody of a relative and county children and youth services agencies have been contacted.

A Carmichaels man is behind bars after allegedly firing a pistol at his son. Richard Dousa is facing attempted homicide charges for the Sunday morning incident on West George Street. Dousa is accused of pointing a gun at his wife and threatening to shoot her. He then got into a fight with his son and allegedly fired a shot at his legs. Dousa told police he thought his wife was having an affair.

Hillary Clinton is going to be on the Carnegie Mellon campus tomorrow. The Democratic presidential candidate announced yesterday that she will speak at 6 p.m. at Skibo Gym.

A man is going to prison for dealing heroin in Washington County. Joseph Drayton pleaded guilty to the crime and received the three-to-six-year sentence yesterday. Drayton was arrested during a probation compliance check in Donora when officers found three-thousand stamp bags of heroin, and cocaine in the residence.

Rice Energy and two of its affiliates are being fined for violations at natural gas well and pipeline sites in Greene and Washington counties. The companies will pay more than 393-thousand dollars for 17 violations though 2012. The Department of Environmental Protection recently said all the issues have since been addressed and all operations are in compliance.

4/6/16

A Derry man is facing charges for allegedly having sex with a teenage runaway. Michael Rosebosky was charged for the crime this week and is also accused of helping to hide the victim at his house. Officials say the teen was reported missing twice over the winter and Rosebosky knew her whereabouts both times, but purposely misled authorities.

A suspended State Police trooper is heading to trial for allegedly exposing himself to a woman at the Greensburg barracks. Eric Zona was held for court yesterday in connection to the October incident. The victim told officials she made an appointment with Zona to buy police merchandise at the annex store. After picking out her items, Zona allegedly exposed himself.

A Fayette County judge is denying a former Connellsville police sergeant's request to have charges against him dismissed. Ryan Reese is accused of coercing a teenager to have sex with him when she was 15-years-old. His former attorney challenged the case in December, claiming there was no element of force. The judge ruled this week that the force "was not the traditional force" but instead involved intellectual, moral or psychological coercion.

The Palace Theatre in Greensburg is getting a makeover. The venue is set to undergo 700 thousand dollars in renovations, including plastering and painting the auditorium. The renovations will help mark the theatre's 90th birthday.

New jobs are coming to Fayette County. Governor Tom Wolf announced yesterday that ContactUS is going to hire 147 people for its new contact center in Redstone Township. Wolf said, "ContactUs boasts a 100-percent U.S.-based workforce and echoes our commitment to providing secure employment."

4/7/16

Governor Tom Wolf is going to sign two executive orders banning discrimination. Both prohibit state agencies from discriminating based on sexual orientation or gender expression and identity.

Republican presidential candidate Donald Trump is opening a campaign office in the Pittsburgh area. The campaign office will be located in the Jonnet Building on William Penn Highway in Monroeville. It's scheduled to open tomorrow with a grand opening on Saturday.

Demolition work is being blamed for a power outage in Waynesburg. Several areas lost service yesterday when crews on High Street accidentally severed some utility wires. The majority of the outages were on the southern side of High Street, including the Greene County Courthouse. Demolition workers are knocking down the rear of the historic J.H. Ganear Building on East High Street.

Two men are going to prison in connection to a Washington home invasion and robbery. Nathaniel Johnson and Sheldon Morris each got up to 15-years behind bars Tuesday after pleading guilty to the 2015 crime. Police say both men, along with Patrick Speer, entered the victim's home and fired a shot before taking a Playstation and several other items. Speer died last month in Washington County Jail.

Five Greene County churches are teaming up to fight the area heroin epidemic. The churches will simultaneously show the movie "An Appalachian Dawn" at 6 o'clock tomorrow night. The film details a Kentucky town dealing with its drug problem. Participating churches include First Baptist and Nazarene Church in Waynesburg, Hewitt Presbyterian in Rices Landing, Carmichaels First United Methodist in Carmichaels and Mapletown United Methodist in Greensboro.

4/8/16

Charges against a former Ringgold High School guidance counselor are being dropped. Charges against Lianne Danko were dropped because the victim no longer wanted to proceed. She had been accused of having sex with a student on two occasions in 2014.

Governor Wolf is expanding non-discrimination protections for state workers and contractors, while non-discrimination legislation remains stalled in the General Assembly. Governor Wolf signed two executive orders yesterday that expand protections from discrimination based on sexual orientation, gender expression or identity for state employees and employees of contractors who do business with the state.

An Adah man is facing charges for allegedly raping a woman at knifepoint. The victim told police she and Earl Maust were staying at the Hopwood Hotel last weekend when he became intoxicated. Maust allegedly grabbed her by the head and forced her to perform a sex act on him before pulling a switchblade and raping her.

Four men are facing charges for allegedly stealing truck tires and tools from businesses in Fayette and Westmoreland counties. The suspects took the items from Kenworth Truck Sales and Cleveland Brothers Equipment in New Stanton, Hunter Truck Sales in Smithfield, CSX Truck in West Newton and a Penn Line Service truck in Smithfield. The men were charged this week after members of the Auto Theft Task Force conducted a stakeout and caught them in the act.

Connellsville School District is holding a public meeting on its plan to move sixth graders to the junior high school. The administration will give a presentation on the proposal at 9 a.m. tomorrow in the high school cafeteria.

California University's interim president is now permanent. The Pennsylvania State System of Higher Education appointed Geraldine Jones to the position yesterday. Jones has been the university's interim president since March 2013.

In Westmoreland, a man is facing charges following an altercation at a pizza shop. Thomas Kokoska accused the victim of having a relationship with his girlfriend and then punched him in the face last month at Del Rosa's Pizza. The victim suffered a black eye and a swollen lip.



4/11/16

A Jeannette High School teacher is facing charges for an alleged inappropriate relationship. Maria Chappell turned herself in Friday and is accused of having sex with a 16-year-old student several times.

A Fayette County couple is in custody, suspected of at least ten recent robberies. Charles Bell and Wendy Victor were arrested last week for a convenience store heist in Rostraver Township. Police also plan to file charges against them this week in connection to a theft from a Burger King in Bentleyville last month. Bell is also accused of robbing the Charleroi Sunoco and both are being investigated for four recent thefts in Fayette County and at least one in Allegheny County.

Governor Tom Wolf is urging lawmakers not to vote for a bill that would place restrictions on abortion in Pennsylvania. Wolf called the House bill "unconstitutional" on Friday and threatened to veto the measure if it passes.

A Mount Pleasant police officer is heading to trial for attempted rape. John Brown was held for court Friday for the incident, which allegedly occurred at his home in December. The victim claims he invited her over and then tried to rape her when she rejected his advances. Brown is also accused of hitting and choking the victim.

Drivers are paying more at the pump. A new Lundberg survey shows that the average price of regular unleaded rose eight cents in the past three weeks. The average price of gas now stands at two-dollars-and-ten-cents per gallon.

New jobs are coming to Washington County. Governor Tom Wolf announced a major expansion at Tech Met last week, saying there are 41 new, full-time jobs being planned as a result. The company is buying the former PolyOne site on East 8th Street in Donora Borough for a chemical milling company.

Officials are investigating a deadly accident in West Finley. Larry Layton reportedly drove off Fraction Road Saturday and got his vehicle stuck on a steep shoulder. Passing motorists stopped to help, but say Layton got belligerent and threatened them. Layton eventually got his car free but then drove it over the embankment and hit a tree. He was not wearing a seatbelt and died a short time later.

4/12

Donald Trump is coming to Pittsburgh. The Republican presidential hopeful will be at Soldiers and Sailors Memorial Hall on tomorrow for a taping with Fox News' Sean Hannity. Doors will open at 2:30 tomorrow afternoon and the event will begin at 5:30. After the taping, Trump will hold a rally at the David L. Lawrence Convention Center at 7 o'clock.

Chelsea Clinton is campaigning for her mother in Pittsburgh. The daughter of Democratic presidential candidate Hillary Clinton will be at the 'Hillary for Pennsylvania' organizing office in East Liberty tomorrow.

Lieutenant Governor Mike Stack is coming to visit Mount Pleasant. Stack will be in the borough Thursday afternoon for a tour and to meet with Mayor Gerald Lucia and Borough Manager Jeff Landy. Lucia says he hopes Stack will be able to help the borough get some grant money for several much-needed projects.

Crews are investigating a fire at the Italian Club in Monessen. The flames broke out Sunday evening after everyone had left the building. Officials hope to have the club open again in a few months.

The medical marijuana bill is expected to be on the governor's desk by the end of this week. The bill faces another vote in the Senate today after a committee amended the bill yesterday. It then goes to the House and members say they're already in agreement on the changes.

Sunoco Logistics is starting to contact homeowners who will be affected by the company's Mariner East II pipeline project. The pipeline is expected to cross 270 properties in Westmoreland County and will carry propane, ethane and butane to eastern Pennsylvania. Construction won't start until at least summer and will take between six and nine months.

A Connellsville man is facing charges for allegedly sexually assaulting a teenage runaway. Scott Brozik was arrested last week for the September incident. Police say he invited the 15-year-old girl into his apartment after she told him she had run away from a juvenile facility. Detectives later matched DNA evidence on the victim to Brozik.

4/13/16

Officials are gearing up for republican presidential candidate Donald Trump's visit to Pittsburgh. According to Trump's website, Trump will hold a rally at seven o'clock tonight at the David L. Lawrence Convention Center.

There is also a Pittsburgh Pirates home game and the Pittsburgh Penguins' first round playoff game at the CONSOL Energy Center.

Teachers in the Highlands School District are striking today. An agreement was not reached during negotiations last night and the teachers will be on the picket line for the next eight days. The administration says it has a plan for seniors so they will graduate on time.

A Westmoreland County school district is trying to find a way to deal with a projected three-point-two-million dollar deficit. Staff cuts are almost inevitable for Hempfield Area schools in order to balance its preliminary 2016-2017 budget.

A man is facing charges for robbing a North Union Township store. Two employees at the Dollar General on North Gallatin Avenue say the suspect, later identified as Glenn Cramer, threatened them with a baseball bat Sunday before taking cash from the registers. Cramer allegedly told police he did it because he was "dope sick."

Medical marijuana is one step closer to being legal in Pennsylvania. The Senate passed the bill yesterday and it now goes back to the House for final approval. The vote in the House could take place as early as today. Governor Tom Wolf has said he will sign the bill when it reaches his desk.

4/14/16

Presidential candidate Donald Trump is raising some eyebrows after an odd question on the campaign trail. At a rally in Pittsburgh, the GOP frontrunner asked the crowd, "How's Joe Paterno?" Some are saying Trump seemed unaware that the famous Penn State football coach died several years ago.

A restaurant owner is facing charges for allegedly inappropriately touching his employees. Cesare Tiano is accused of groping, slapping and licking at least six female employees at Grande Pizza on Route 30 in North Huntingdon.

The Hempfield Area School District is pondering job cuts. Superintendent Barbara Marin called the cuts "pretty inevitable" on Tuesday, saying, "There are people who are going to be losing their jobs, because we are going to need to cut back." The board says no classes or programs will be eliminated, but some could be "reduced." The district is facing a three-point-two-million-dollar budget deficit.

The price of gas in the Keystone State is six-cents higher than a week ago. PennsylvaniaGasPrices.com reports it's two-dollars-25-cents a gallon. The national average is two-dollars-nine-cents a gallon.

A Fayette County woman is filing a discrimination complaint against Robert Morris University. Jeanne Baugh filed the suit yesterday, claiming she faced gender discrimination and a hostile work environment in the Computer Information Department, where she was a professor.

4/15/16

A man is dead following a freak accident at the FirstEnergy facility in Greensburg. Jimmy Southern Jr. was riding a mower yesterday morning and got tangled in a chain that was blocking a dumping area. Officials believe the chain choked him.

Pennsylvania's tax burdens are in the middle of the pack nationally according to a WalletHub.com survey. Based on property tax, individual income taxes, and sales and gross receipts taxes as a percentage of total personal income, the Keystone State is ranked 25th. New York has the highest tax burdens and Alaska the lowest.

Democratic presidential hopeful Bernie Sanders has a new office in Greensburg. The campaign held an open house last night at the location, which is in the train station downtown.

A speed limit change is coming to a road in Unity Township, Westmoreland County. The speed limit on Lewis Road will be reduced from 35 miles per hour to 25 miles per hour. The change was reportedly prompted by complaints from the community.

A man is going to prison for trying to kill another man with a farm tractor. Frank Oleary was sentenced Wednesday to up to ten years behind bars for the 2014 incident. Oleary pinned Robert Clay between his tractor and a truck after Clay drove onto a gas well access road on Oleary's Waynesburg property. Clay's arm was crushed by the impact. Oleary also hit Clay in the face multiple times.

A man is facing charges for allegedly driving off with a woman hanging onto the back of his truck. Gerald Duritsky Jr. was charged Wednesday for the incident, which occurred last month in Masontown. Jessica Jordan told police she was getting something out of the back of the truck when Duritsky began driving it. Jordan fell and was knocked unconscious.

4/18/16

Pennsylvania is now the 24th state to have legal medical marijuana. Governor Tom Wolf signed the bill into law yesterday at the capitol building in Harrisburg. Patients will be allowed to take the marijuana in pill, oil, vapor, ointment or liquid form.

Officials are investigating a fatal house fire in Luzerne Township. The flames broke out on Bull Run Road early yesterday. One person and three cats in the residence did not survive. A woman made it out uninjured.

A Unity woman is facing charges for allegedly leaving her toddler alone. A neighbor found the three-year-old crying along Williamsburg Drive last weekend when temperatures were in the teens. Officers say Samantha Slavik left the little girl alone to meet a man in Latrobe and was gone for almost eight hours. Children and Youth Services took custody of the child.

The Hip-Hop Conference is coming back to California University. The eleventh-annual event will be held Thursday and Friday, and will feature a hip-hop cultural expert and the group, Mobb Deep. Organizers say it is the longest running hip-hop symposium in the eastern region. The conference will also address film, the criminal justice system and campus safety. Events are free and open to the public.

Officials are investigating a large wildfire in Ligonier Township. About 20-acres of land was burned on top of Laurel Mountain near Route 30 Saturday evening. Crews from Westmoreland, Somerset, Cambria and Indiana counties all responded to fight the flames. There were no reported injuries.

4/19/16

A Mt. Pleasant teen accused of shooting and killing his friend while the two allegedly played with a handgun will remain in police custody. A judge yesterday denied a request by John Henry Burnsworth's attorney to release him on house arrest with electronic monitoring. Burnsworth is accused of shooting James Robert Gustafson in a South Church Street apartment on March 20th.

Republican presidential candidate John Kasich [[ KAY-sick ]] is coming to western Pennsylvania. Kasich is expected to make a stop in Pittsburgh today at the Original Oyster House in Market Square. Kasich is a McKees Rocks native. Pennsylvania's primary is April 26th.

Some changes could be coming to the Hempfield Area School District. A change to the middle school schedule is being proposed. The change calls for extending the length of a period from 40 minutes to 60 minutes and cutting the number of periods in a day from seven to six. This would give teachers more time to teach.

Striking teachers are being forced back into their classrooms in the Highland School District today. Union members walked off their jobs April 13th, but they've been told if the strike extends the school year beyond June 15th they can't picket. Some parents have been critical of the walkout telling them if they don't like the pay they can go down the road. The teachers have been without a contract for 16 months.

4/20/16

A drug abuse help line will be up and running in Westmoreland County soon. The help line will begin operation tonight, and will provide counseling and information about drug addiction and alcohol abuse. The help line number is 1-844-897-8927.

A Charleroi woman is facing charges for allegedly beating her step-grandson. Police say Mary Walker was arrested after Children and Youth was notified that the boy had bruises all over his body. The boy told officers Walker stripped him down to his underwear and beat him with a belt.

A Salem Township woman is going to prison for killing her mother. Sarah Vercauteren pleaded guilty to first-degree murder and was sentenced to life in prison without parole yesterday. Vercauteren admitted to beating Dawn Wagner with a hammer in 2013 during an argument over her car. Vercauteren then pretended to be Wagner in texts and emails so no one would know she was dead.

Police are investigating a fire at the former Elks Lodge in Brownsville. All three floors of the building were damaged in yesterday's Water Street blaze. Some hazardous materials were being stored in the basement but crews were able to keep the flames from that area. One firefighter suffered a minor injury.

Pennsylvania is ranked as the ninth most financially savvy state in the nation. The WalletHub.com survey is based on 20 factors ranging from total debt as a percentage of median income to average credit score. Minnesota is ranked as the most financially savvy state.

Bill Clinton is coming to Pittsburgh today. The former president is campaigning for his wife, Hillary Clinton, and will speak about her plan to raise incomes and "break down the barriers that are holding Pennsylvania families back."

A camp fire is being blamed for a 20 acre forest fire in Wharton Township. The flames broke out Sunday in some dried brush in a wooded area. The location presented a challenge for firefighters because of the rugged terrain so helicopters and airplanes were brought in and it took until Monday to extinguish the blaze.

Officials are confirming that a Hempfield Area High School student has whooping cough. A letter was sent home to parents yesterday warning them to call a doctor immediately if their children start coughing. It is the district's second case of whooping cough this year.

4/21/16

The Greater Latrobe Area school district is going to start carrying the anti-overdose drug, naloxone. The school board approved the policy at a Tuesday meeting. District nurses and emergency response teams will now be trained on administering the drug.

An Everson man is facing charges for allegedly repeatedly raping a young family member. James Grimm is accused of sexually assaulting the girl for four years beginning when she was 13. The victim told police he raped her so many times it would be impossible to count.

Construction is underway on a natural gas-fueled power plant in South Huntingdon. Nebraska-based Tenaska announced Tuesday that the project has all its permits and is finally moving along. The 780-million-dollar plant is being built south of Interstate 70 near Route 31. About 300 new jobs will be created to build the facility, and construction is expected to take three years.

A man is facing charges in connection to a deadly accident in North Union Township. Cody Pritchard is accused of falling asleep at the wheel and hitting Daniel Ferguson with his vehicle on the side of Route 51 last year. Pritchard told police that he was tired but didn't remember falling asleep.

A Venetia man is facing charges for allegedly conning an elderly Bethel Park woman out of almost 300-thousand dollars. William Kail was arrested this week for the theft which happened over a two-year period. He began to do work around her home, and borrowed her debit card to buy supplies. The card was never returned and the victim later discovered unauthorized transactions.

A man is facing charges for allegedly running an off-duty sheriff's deputy off the road in Mt. Pleasant Township. The deputy was on Route 519 late Sunday night when a car swerved into his lane, forcing him off the road. Driver Brandon McGivern took off after the incident. The deputy followed him, pulled him over and found brass knuckles, a crack pipe, marijuana and Xanax pills.

Officials are investigating a fire that destroyed a mobile home in California. The flames broke out on Green Street yesterday morning and firefighters say the residence was 80 percent engulfed by the time they arrived. A woman and her dogs escaped unharmed but two firefighters suffered minor burns.

4/22/16

Republican presidential candidate John Kasich will be campaigning in his hometown. According to Kasich's website, Kasich will hold a town hall event at Montour High School in McKees Rocks on Monday, the day before Pennsylvania's primary. Doors open at 6 p.m. and the event starts at 7 p.m.

A Uniontown police officer is recovering following an accident during a car chase. Christopher Greer was driving erratically on Barton Mill Road early yesterday and would not stop for the officer. A few blocks after the chase began, Greer reportedly drove straight at the officer's vehicle, causing significant damage and minor injuries. He is charged with attempted homicide and driving under the influence.

The Washington County Redevelopment Authority says two properties in the Donora Industrial Park are being developed. Officials announced this week that Pitt Building is buying six acres to construct a warehouse and office space for Airgas Incorporated and will hire about two dozen people. The other tenant will be the Mon Valley Sewage Authority, which is building a pump station for storm water treatment.

Several area Kmart and Sears stores are closing. It was announced yesterday that the Sears on Clearview Circle in Butler, and the Sears on West State Street in New Castle will be closing. Additionally the Kmart on Constitution Boulevard in Beaver Falls, another on Matthews Drive in Uniontown and the Kmart on McIntyre Square Drive and South Braddock Avenue in Pittsburgh will all shutter. They'll close in late July.

The Charleroi Regional Police Department is hiring a full-time officer. The board approved the position Wednesday after the department lost six part-time officers to other departments over the last year. It will be cheaper to hire a full-time officer than to train part-timers who end up leaving.

The opening of the Sweitzer Road Bridge in Hempfield may be delayed. A township engineer told supervisors Wednesday that crews noticed a slight indentation in the structure, which could be a defect. The original bridge was damaged in a crash and was demolished earlier this year. If the new bridge does have a defect, Lone Pine will fix it, at no cost to the township.



Officials are investigating after a first-grader wandered away from school during recess. The students were playing outside at Amos K. Hutchinson Elementary School in Greensburg Tuesday when the child decided to walk home. The boy's parents were there when he got to his house and say the school did not notice until they called in.

An Irwin man is awaiting sentencing for animal cruelty. Jason French pleaded guilty yesterday to strangling a rescue dog in 2015. A neighbor called police after seeing the dog's body in the yard. French told police he strangled the animal because it wouldn't stop barking.

4/25/16

A man is dead following a motorcycle accident in Westmoreland County. Twenty-nine-year-old Chad Gates was killed when he crashed his motorcycle head on into another vehicle on Route 982 in Derry Township yesterday afternoon. Gates was not wearing a helmet and was pronounced dead at the scene.

A fire is under investigation in Westmoreland County. Officials say the fire sparked late last night at a home on North Third Street in Jeannette.

In advance of Pennsylvania's primary tomorrow, Hillary Clinton is campaigning in Youngwood. Clinton will speak at Westmoreland County Community College today about what is at stake in this election. Those interested in attending can RSVP at [HillaryClinton.com](http://HillaryClinton.com). Doors open at 12:45 p.m. and the event will start at 2:45 p.m.

Ohio Governor John Kasich will be in McKees Rocks today. The Pittsburgh-area native will host a town hall meeting at Montour High School. Doors open at 6 p.m. and the event begins at 7:00. Go to [Eventbrite.com](http://Eventbrite.com) for more information.

A man is facing charges after police found a marijuana-growing operation in his Bentleyville home. Richard Ritenour was arrested last week when Children and Youth Services went to the Main Street residence to do a welfare check on three children. The caseworker was not allowed to enter and called police, who smelled marijuana and got a search warrant. Officers found a sophisticated, three-room operation with grow lights, ventilation equipment and irrigation gear.

A man is recovering after being struck by a train near Westmoreland City. The victim was hit Friday along the Norfolk Southern Railroad tracks in a remote area off Liberty Avenue. Emergency responders had to use an all-terrain vehicle to carry the man to a waiting ambulance.

Westmoreland County's Controller, Jeffrey Balzer, says his recent eviction is just an attempt to embarrass him. The county's fiscal watchdog was evicted from his Salem residence earlier this month because he was allegedly behind on his rent. Balzer says, this eviction proceeding "is part of a longstanding situation between my landlord and me." He adds, "this is all just an attempt to embarrass me, but it's not going to work. I am not embarrassed and I am planning to appeal."

Many are checking their medicine cabinet in preparation for National Drug Take-Back Day. On April 30th, fire departments, police stations and hospitals will be accepting all prescription pills no questions asked.

Several area Kmart and Sears stores are closing. It was announced yesterday that the Sears on Clearview Circle in Butler, and the Sears on West State Street in New Castle will be closing. Additionally the Kmart on Constitution Boulevard in Beaver Falls, another on Matthews Drive in Uniontown and the Kmart on McIntyre Square Drive and South Braddock Avenue in Pittsburgh will all shutter. They'll close in late July.

Donald Trump says his rivals for the Republican presidential nomination should get out of the race. Speaking in Pennsylvania, Trump said he's millions of votes ahead of both Ted Cruz and John Kasich and questioned what they're still doing in the race. He also suggested that he may become more presidential once he defeats Cruz and Kasich.

4/25/16

A man is dead following a motorcycle accident in Westmoreland County. Twenty-nine-year-old Chad Gates was killed when he crashed his motorcycle head on into another vehicle on Route 982 in Derry Township yesterday afternoon. Gates was not wearing a helmet and was pronounced dead at the scene.

A fire is under investigation in Westmoreland County. Officials say the fire sparked late last night at a home on North Third Street in Jeannette.

In advance of Pennsylvania's primary tomorrow, Hillary Clinton is campaigning in Youngwood. Clinton will speak at Westmoreland County Community College today about what is at stake in this election. Those interested in attending can RSVP at [HillaryClinton.com](http://HillaryClinton.com). Doors open at 12:45 p.m. and the event will start at 2:45 p.m.

Ohio Governor John Kasich will be in McKees Rocks today. The Pittsburgh-area native will host a town hall meeting at Montour High School. Doors open at 6 p.m. and the event begins at 7:00. Go to [Eventbrite.com](http://Eventbrite.com) for more information.

A man is facing charges after police found a marijuana-growing operation in his Bentleyville home. Richard Ritenour was arrested last week when Children and Youth Services went to the Main Street residence to do a welfare check on three children. The caseworker was not allowed to enter and called police, who smelled marijuana and got a search warrant. Officers found a sophisticated, three-room operation with grow lights, ventilation equipment and irrigation gear.

A man is recovering after being struck by a train near Westmoreland City. The victim was hit Friday along the Norfolk Southern Railroad tracks in a remote area off Liberty Avenue. Emergency responders had to use an all-terrain vehicle to carry the man to a waiting ambulance.

Washington is getting upgrades for about 13-hundred area streetlights. The city has teamed up with First Energy and West Penn Power to make the change, which will include replacing the existing lights with high efficiency LED lights. The new lights will be stronger and less expensive.

Westmoreland County's Controller, Jeffrey Balzer, says his recent eviction is just an attempt to embarrass him. The county's fiscal watchdog was evicted from his Salem residence earlier this month because he was allegedly behind on his rent. Balzer says, this eviction proceeding "is part of a longstanding situation between my landlord and me." He adds, "this is all just an attempt to embarrass me, but it's not going to work. I am not embarrassed and I am planning to appeal."

4/26/16

The Greene County jail has a new live electric fence to keep prisoners from escaping. The fence was energized earlier this month and according to officials, carries more than seven-thousand volts of electricity. The facility is the first county-run lockup in the state to use an electric fence.

Jeannette is dumping garbage fees for three weeks. There will be no charge for city sanitation pick up of large items and bags of trash on regularly scheduled collection days the weeks of May 1st, 15th and 29th. Bags must weigh less than 40 pounds and electronics, concrete, bricks, televisions and tires will not be accepted.

Voters in five states head to the polls today. It's presidential primary day in Pennsylvania, Maryland, Connecticut, Delaware and Rhode Island. Frontrunners Donald Trump and Hillary Clinton are expected to do well again after big wins in New York's primary last week.

Westmoreland County officials are setting up several locations where people can dispose of old and unused medication on National Prescription Drug Take Back Day. The event is planned for Saturday between 10 a.m. and 2 p.m. Drugs can be dropped off anonymously at the Greensburg police department, the North Huntingdon police department, the State Police station in Rostraver, the Keystone Pharmacy in New Alexandria and various CVS locations.

A man is facing charges for allegedly beating the driver of an SUV with a broken bottle in Uniontown. Adam Fowler told police he drove his friend to KFC so he could meet someone to borrow money last month and when they arrived, two or three men got into his back seat and one began assaulting him. Fowler was hit over the head with a broken bottle and stepped on the gas so he could wreck the vehicle and end the assault.

One person is dead following a crash in Westmoreland County. A vehicle and tractor trailer collided head on along Route 30 in Ligonier Township, just before midnight. The crash also caused a large diesel spill.

Jeannette is dumping garbage fees for three weeks. There will be no charge for city sanitation pick up of large items and bags of trash on regularly scheduled collection days the weeks of May 1st, 15th and 29th. Bags must weigh less than 40 pounds and electronics, concrete, bricks, televisions and tires will not be accepted.

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A man is going to prison for stabbing two people outside a West Waynesburg bar. Joseph Adams received the nine-to-23-month sentence last week after being found guilty in connection to the March incident outside Buddy's Tavern. Adams got into a fight with the victims and stabbed both multiple times.

4/27/16

More information is being released in connection with a two vehicle crash in Westmoreland County earlier this week. Kenneth Moats and his passenger Alison Hall were thrown from the motorcycle they were on when they collided with a Jeep on Route 982 in Unity on Monday.

Donald Trump and Hillary Clinton are big winners in Pennsylvania. Both presidential hopefuls came out on top during primary day yesterday. For the U.S. Senate, Democrat Katie McGinty beat Joe Sestak, John Fetterman and Joe Vodvarka to take on incumbent Republican Pat Toomey in the fall. In the race for state Attorney General race, Republicans selected John Rafferty and Democrats picked Josh Shapiro.

The death of a man in a wrong-way crash in Ligonier Township is being ruled a suicide. James Fillman got into a fight with his wife early yesterday and then swerved into the path of a tractor-trailer on Route 30 near Idlewild Park. Witnesses claim the truck driver tried to get out of the way but Fillman drove right into him.

Federal officials are investigating a former Greensburg doctor, already accused in a sex-for-drugs operation in Westmoreland County. Robert Franzino, who has been in prison since March, is accused of using social media to offer the teenage victim drugs and cash for sex. Details of the federal charges have not been released.

A former school bus driver is facing charges for allegedly endangering an eleven-year-old Penn-Trafford student. Patricia Ryan was charged this week for asking the boy to get out and remove a live power line from the road earlier this month. The boy's hand was burned but he was not seriously hurt.

A Dilliner woman is facing charges for allegedly stabbing her housemate. Christine Johnson cut Eric Robinson in their Walnut Hill Road home during a fight Monday. Robinson is also accused of hitting Johnson's 13-year-old daughter. Both are charged with assault and harassment.

4/28/16

A portion of Route 30 in Westmoreland County is back open following a fire. Both lanes of Route 30 east in Hempfield were closed last night while firefighters battled a fire at K Rentals where three campers were reportedly on fire. The road re-opened around midnight.

Westmoreland County Community College is moving forward with plans for several expansions and renovations. WCCC trustees approved updates to the plans yesterday. Some of the renovations include building additions onto Founders Hall and Science Hall, and adding new signs and lighting around campus.

An investigation is underway following a shooting in Washington County. One person was shot late last night on Hillcrest Avenue in Burgettstown. The person was airlifted to the hospital for treatment.

Police are investigating a hit-and-run accident in Irwin. A woman was walking near Irwin Park Tuesday when she was hit by a dark green or blue Ford Escape or Explorer. The male driver reportedly asked the woman if she was ok and then took off. Police say the vehicle most likely has front-end damage.

Washington and Greene counties are seeing increases in unemployment. The jobless rate jumped from five-point-seven to six-point-three in Washington last month. It also went from seven to eight in Greene.

The Meadows Racetrack and Casino is being fined by the Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board. The 40-thousand-dollar fine was levied after two men on the board's self-exclusion list were allowed to gamble at the casino. The facility also reportedly distributed promotional materials to 91 people on the list, which is supposed to keep recovering gamblers from relapsing.

A homeless couple is facing charges in connection to three robberies in Westmoreland County. Wendy Victor and Charles Bell were arrested in Rostraver earlier this month after officers saw Bell driving a car suspected in a theft. When officers tried to stop him, Bell backed into the patrol car, causing minor damage. He also punched and kicked two officers while they were trying to arrest him. A subsequent investigation linked the pair to a robbery at a CoGo's and an Exxon in Rostraver and Reddy's Sunoco in Connellsville.

Results from the 9th Congressional District indicate incumbent legislator Bill Shuster is going to serve an eighth term. Shuster declared victory in the primary yesterday and barring a write-in campaign in the fall, will keep the seat. The district includes all of Fayette, and portions of Greene, Washington, and Westmoreland counties.

A Uniontown couple is heading to trial for allegedly starving their daughter to death. Michael Wright Jr. and Andrea Dusha were held for court on homicide charges Tuesday. Officials say the 23-month-old victim was malnourished, dehydrated and weighed barely ten pounds when she passed away in February.

Greensburg police are investigating a possible theft at city hall. Money was reported missing from a lock box this week, but detectives did not say how much was gone or which office the report came from. Officers say the shortage could also be an accounting error and are continuing to investigate.

4/29/16

A one car crash is under investigation in Westmoreland County. A car slammed into a utility pole late last night at the intersection of Route 906 and Tyrol Boulevard in Rostraver.

A Latrobe man is behind bars for allegedly raping a 12-year-old girl. Johnathon Rosario met the girl at the Latrobe Skating Center over the winter and reportedly began communicating with her on Facebook. The conversations turned sexual and the victim says the 23-year-old Rosario eventually showed up at her home and sexually assaulted her. He was arrested this week.

Officials are investigating a fire that damaged three RVs in Hempfield Township. The flames broke out at Vogue Limousines and Kay Rentals on Route 30 late Wednesday.

5/2/16

A fire is under investigation in Fayette County. Firefighters were called to a home on Murray Avenue in Uniontown early yesterday morning for a fully involved fire. The home was reportedly vacant and no injuries were reported.

A woman is facing charges after admitting to "huffing" while driving and causing at least one accident in North Huntingdon. Witnesses say the woman crashed her truck into the Subway sign on Route 30 Saturday, and the vehicle quickly became engulfed in flames. Employees in the restaurant helped the mother get her five-year-old son out of the car and then saw her throw something in a nearby dumpster. Police say the item was a can of compressed air, which the suspect was inhaling just before the accident.

A man is in critical condition after being shot in East Washington Borough. Deshawn Barfield was shot in the chest Saturday morning inside a vehicle on South Wade Avenue.

A man is facing charges after allegedly being caught with child pornography in Morgan Township. Eric Stull was arrested Friday for allegedly possessing and distributing the material.

"American Pickers" is coming to Pennsylvania this summer. The team is looking for "characters with interesting and unique items" and specifically wants vintage bikes, toys, unusual radios, military items, folk art, early firefighting equipment and automotive items. Call 855-OLD-RUST for more information.

A man is behind bars after allegedly robbing a Masontown pharmacy. Police say Charles Kowalczyk the Second was wearing a mask from the movie "V For Vendetta" and holding a gun when he went into the CVS on McClellandtown Road last week and demanded drugs.

A woman is facing charges for attempting to rob a bank in Mount Pleasant Township. Mary Clark allegedly went to the First Niagara branch on Route 981 last month and gave the teller a note saying her grandchildren were being held hostage and would be killed if she didn't get some money.

5/3/16

PennDOT is changing the speed limit to 70 miles per hour on several hundred miles of its roadways. PennDOT says starting today, crews will be installing new speed limit signs on portions of I-79, I-80, U.S. 15, I-99 and I-380.

There is a new mayor in Youngwood. Councilmembers appointed Kris Long to the position of mayor yesterday. Long reportedly resigned as a councilmember moments before he took the oath of office. He replaces Mayor Joan Derco, who passed away last month.

The federal Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration is investigating a natural gas pipeline explosion in Salem Township. An evacuation order in the area was lifted Sunday, although three families have been displaced by the damage from Friday's blast. One person suffered severe burns in the incident and is in critical condition.

A Uniontown man is facing charges for allegedly trying to strangle a 16-year-old girl in South Union Township. The victim told police Michael Pickens came up behind her Sunday and placed a belt around her neck. Her mother helped her break free. Witnesses say Pickens was drinking before the attack.

The federal Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration is investigating a natural gas pipeline explosion in Salem Township. An evacuation order in the area was lifted Sunday, although three families have been displaced by the damage from Friday's blast. One person suffered severe burns in the incident and is in critical condition.

A fire at a Greensburg business is being ruled arson. Officials announced yesterday that last week's blaze at K Rentals on Route 30 was intentionally set. The flames destroyed three recreational vehicles.

Giant Eagle is recalling certain cookie varieties because of an unlisted ingredient. The company announced yesterday that its Walnut Delight and Pecan Tassie cookies are made with milk, which is not listed on the packaging. The affected cookies have sell-by dates through May 3rd.

Officials are investigating a fire that destroyed a Connellsville business. The flames broke out Sunday morning at Ed Vincent Auto Body shop on Morrell Avenue and the roof had collapsed by the time crews arrived. The fire marshal says the massive damage is going to make it difficult to find a cause.

5/4/16

A deadly crash is under investigation in Fayette County. Two teens were killed and another was injured late last night following a crash on Morgantown Road in Georges Township. The victims' names have not been released.

A Jeannette woman is facing charges after she allegedly stabbed her boyfriend. Jamie Petty was arraigned earlier this week on charges including aggravated assault, harassment and simple assault. She is accused of stabbing him inside her apartment on Division Street over the weekend.

A portion of highway in Westmoreland County remains closed following a natural gas pipeline explosion. Officials say crews are still making repairs to Route 819 in Salem Township which could take several days. The cause of the blast remains under investigation.

Greene County is getting a model airplane museum. The project received approval from the planning commission Monday. The space is being built in Cumberland Township, in a commercial building along Park Avenue, now occupied by Brodak Manufacturing, which makes model airplane kits. The developer hopes to have the rest of the paperwork completed soon and says he wants to have the space "under roof" by the end of August.

5/5/16



New findings from the investigation into a natural gas pipeline that exploded in Salem Township. There is evidence of corrosion that indicates a "possible flaw" in the coating on the welded joints. Three homes were damaged, one was destroyed and one person was severely burned in the blast last week near Route 22 and Route 819.

Governor Tom Wolf is asking for help stopping the heroin epidemic in the state. Wolf called a "meeting of experts" yesterday to brainstorm ways to tackle the issue. Wolf is already calling for millions of dollars for more drug treatment homes in Pennsylvania.

Two teenagers are dead after a car accident in Georges Township. It appears the vehicle was going more than 100 miles-an-hour Tuesday night when it hit an embankment and a stone wall on Route 119. Seventeen-year-olds Kyler Catlett, who was driving, and Yolanda Jackson died at the scene. A 16-year-old in the back is in serious condition.

Two teens are dead in a Fayette County crash. Kyler Catlett of Smithfield and Yolanda Jackson of Uniontown, both 17, were pronounced dead at the scene Wednesday night. The vehicle they were in was traveling at a high rate of speed when it failed to negotiate a curve on Route 119. The car struck a grass embankment, went airborne, rolled over, then hit a utility pole and a stone wall. A 16-year-old girl in the back seat was injured.

A man is facing charges for allegedly pointing a gun at employees at a 7-Eleven in Monongahela. Jonathan Green reportedly got into an argument with several people outside the Dry Run Road store Monday night. Witnesses say he started to leave but then got out of his vehicle with a gun and threatened to kill the employees.

Dog wardens are going to be patrolling Greene County this month, making sure that all dogs have licenses. The sweeps will be done the week of May 16th and violators will be cited and fined. Any dogs over the age of three months must be licensed each year and dogs and cats must both be vaccinated against rabies. Licenses can be purchased through the county treasurer.

The daycare center in the Eberly Building at Penn State Fayette is closing up. University officials announced yesterday that they are not renewing their contract with Duck Hollow Learning for the Cub's Den, citing under-utilization. The space will be repurposed for other educational activities.

5/6/16

Dogs are not allowed at Lynch Field in Greensburg. Greensburg's recreation department had been considering allowing leashed dogs at the facility but recently decided against the idea. Safety was one of the department's concerns.

Police are asking for the public's help finding a missing Uniontown teen. Sixteen-year-old Reuben Stokes Jr. left his Lawn Avenue home early yesterday to take out the garbage, and never came back. Stokes is five-feet, six-inches tall with black hair and brown eyes.

Time is running out to upgrade to Windows 10 for free. Microsoft says users have until July 29th to make the switch before the cost goes up to 120-dollars for the home version. The tech company has been offering the free operating system upgrades for months.

A fire at a vacant Jeannette house is being ruled arson. Officials announced yesterday that the blaze was set in two places in the North Third Street residence last month. Officials are asking neighbors who notice people going in and out of vacant buildings to call police.

An electrical malfunction is being blamed for a house fire that killed two pets in Monessen. The flames broke out yesterday in a stove in an Elm Street home. The blaze gutted the kitchen and caused smoke and water damage. No human injuries were reported but two cats died in the fire.

5/9/16

Five people, including two babies, are recovering following an accident in Youngwood. A truck hit a car from behind yesterday on Third Street, causing the car to roll over. Four people in the vehicle were injured, as was the driver of the truck. About 15-hundred customers also experienced power outages in the area, after some lines came down.

A Masontown man is facing charges after attacking police officers who were trying to arrest him. Thomas Hall the Third was allegedly found carrying a backpack with 23 sandwich bags of marijuana last summer. Police went to Hall's house last week to serve the bench warrant and found him washing his walls with Pine Sol and saying he was "God's savior" and had to "wash away his sins." When they tried to handcuff him, Hall allegedly began threatening to kill the officers.

The Meadows Casino has a new ten-foot-tall slot machine. The "Behemoth" game took six technicians almost a whole day to set up last week. It's circular, with three 84-inch high-definition video monitors and surround sound so strong, it vibrates the bench. The game debuted over the weekend.

Greater Latrobe students are trying to get the district to lower parking fees. Drivers currently pay 100-dollars a year to park on campus, but say the price is too steep and are asking it be lowered to 80 dollars. This is the second time students have asked for lower fees.

Two people are facing charges after a drug bust in Uniontown. Police received a tip last week about suspicious activity and arrived to find the suspects loading 50 marijuana plants into a car. The man and woman tried to tell officers that they were vegetable plants.

The cause of a Jeannette fire that destroyed a vacant home is going to remain unknown. Investigators announced last week that the three-story Clay Avenue building was damaged so badly they were not able to figure out how it began. The April blaze caused the building to collapse.

A man is facing charges following a traffic stop in North Irwin. Gerald Peters Jr. was pulled over on Main Street and found to be in possession of more than three ounces of marijuana, prescription drugs and cash. He will be in court later this month to be charged with possession with intent to deliver.

5/10/16

Some changes could be coming to a Westmoreland County school district. Hempfield Area School District is looking at a budget proposal that would furlough several teachers and cut staff positions. The cuts would help offset a four-point-six-million dollar budget deficit.

The teen accused of stabbing 20 students and a security guard at Franklin Regional High School is going to be tried as an adult. A Westmoreland County judge announced yesterday that Alex Hribal, who was 16 when the crime was committed in 2014, will face attempted homicide and aggravated assault charges in adult court.

Housing affordability is up in California. The California Association of Realtors reports that 34-percent of the state's households could afford to buy a median-priced home in the first quarter, up from 30-percent in last year's final quarter.

The state Department of Conservation and Natural Resources is holding an open house at Ryerson Station State Park's office. The meeting will start at 5 p.m. next Tuesday and will give people the opportunity to discuss the preliminary plans for the park, which is undergoing major renovations over the next few years.

Officials are planning a fifth year of outdoor movies at The Market House in downtown Charleroi. There will be family-friendly movies every other Wednesday this summer, beginning on June 15th. The Market House is covered so films are shown rain or shine. Movies will include "Minions," "Hotel Transylvania 2" and "Inside Out." The movies are free and begin at 7 p.m.

5/11/16

The Dunbar Township American Legion is closed. The Fayette County district attorney made the announcement yesterday saying the post was shut down after multiple complaints. Police have investigated 18 incidents at the Legion over the past three years, including harassment, disorderly conduct, fights, weapons, sexual activity and shootings involving injury and homicide.

A Charleroi mother and daughter are facing charges following a Mother's Day shoplifting incident at Walmart. Jordan Bercik and her 16-year-old daughter were arrested Sunday after the teen was caught filling her mom's purse with about 100 dollars-worth of merchandise.

5/12/16

A man whose body was pulled from the Monongahela River in Fayette County has been identified as Jace Sayre of West Virginia. Two people fishing by the Speers Bridge near Belle Vernon noticed the body in the water around 8:30 last night and alerted authorities. Sayre worked as a boat engineer for Murray American Transportation.

More fighter jets are being added to the lineup at the Shop 'n Save Westmoreland County International Airshow. Two F-18 Super Hornets are scheduled to be on the ground for viewing and another will be in the air for a performance during the event, which will be at Arnold Palmer Airport the weekend of May 21st. The Canadian Forces Snowbirds will headline the show. Officials expect 100-thousand people to attend.

Thirteen people are facing charges for allegedly dealing heroin and crack cocaine in Westmoreland County. The bust came yesterday following a lengthy investigation by police and the county Drug Task Force. Detectives used confidential informants to identify and purchase drugs from the suspects.

Police are looking for a man who stabbed a Good Samaritan in Ligonier Township. The victim stopped to help a man in a disabled vehicle on Route 711 Saturday night, and when he turned his back, the suspect pulled a knife and demanded cash. The victim refused and was stabbed twice before the suspect took off.

A man is facing charges for allegedly hitting a child with a wiffle ball bat in Cumberland Township. Adam Smith was charged Monday with simple assault and harassment. Smith was fighting with the child's mother so the boy grabbed the bat to protect her. Smith reportedly dared the boy to hit him, so he did. Smith then allegedly grabbed the bat and hit the boy on his side causing a large welt. He told police he only did it because the boy hit him first.

5/13/16

Kennywood Park is offering a fun promotion for season pass holders. This Sunday is Buddy Day & season pass holders can bring a buddy to the park and get their ticket for only ten dollars.

Cedar Creek Park in Westmoreland County is expanding. The county added 28-point-three acres of land to the park in Rostraver. The land will also give the Mon Valley Radio Control Club more space to fly drones and helicopters.

More information is being released about the discovery of a body in the Monongahela River. Jace Sayre, a West Virginia boat engineer, was discovered in the water near Belle Vernon Wednesday by two fishermen. Sayre was working on a vessel when he was reported missing earlier in the day and officials believe he fell into the river. Sayre reportedly could not swim.

Monessen is working with a consultant to get back in shape financially. A 767-thousand-dollar deficit prompted the community to team up with Grass Root Solutions for early intervention. Grass Root Solutions works with third class cities through a state Department of Community and Economic Development program.

Governor Wolf is introducing his Zika Virus Response Plan. Wolf announced yesterday that the state health department is working with his office to create a testing method that will bypass the federal labs in Atlanta. Wolf says the plan also includes enhanced surveillance and control of the mosquitoes that carry the virus.

5/16/16

More test results from Ten Mile Creek near the Clyde Mine Treatment Facility are normal. State Representative Pam Snyder announced Friday that the water samples did not contain excessive radiation. An independent study in 2015 had similar results but 2014 tests found elevated levels. Snyder says more tests are scheduled for June.

California council is rejecting its lone bid for the Mon wharf boat launch project. The decision was made last week at the monthly meeting. Officials say Plavchak Construction's 210-thousand-dollar bid exceeded the budget. Council will now take individual bids for different phases of the project.

A man is dead following a freak accident in Brownsville. Nixon O'Neill was working under a van at his home yesterday, when the vehicle rolled backwards, pinning him underneath. He was pronounced dead a short time later.

A man is facing charges following a traffic stop in California Borough. Police tried to pull Jordan Mapstone over for driving without lights on Wood Street Friday but he refused to stop. Officers followed him to a dead end on Meadow Avenue, where Mapstone then ran into the woods. He was arrested moments later and allegedly found to be under the influence and in possession of heroin, crack cocaine and marijuana.

A deadly shooting in Fayette County is under investigation. Authorities were called to Brown Barn Road in Bullskin yesterday evening for the report of a that shooting.

5/17/16

Connellsville is gearing up for its 12th Annual Geranium Festival. The event will be held on May 28th, from 9 a.m. until 4 p.m. on Crawford Avenue from Arch to Pittsburgh streets. The festival also features food, crafts, entertainment and activities for kids, including a princess contest and a pet parade.

5/19/16

The teen accused of shooting and killing his classmate then posing to take a selfie with the dead body, is going to adult prison. Maxwell Morton will be transferred from the Regional Youth Services Center in Hempfield to the Westmoreland County Prison. Morton is charged with first degree murder in connection with the death of Ryan Mangan back in February of 2015.

A man is facing charges for allegedly assaulting his daughter's friends. Keith Shipley was mad that the teens kept his 15-year-old daughter out too late, and got into an altercation with them at Falls Market Restaurant in Ohiopyle Saturday. He is accused of grabbing a girl's arm and hitting a boy in the face.

A woman is facing charges for allegedly leaving her boyfriend's daughter at the scene of an accident in Uniontown. Maddie Molina-Bowers was in a crash last month on Mill Run Road in Springfield Township. A Good Samaritan took her and the child into her home to warm up while they waited for authorities. Molina-Bowers reportedly told the woman she was going outside to smoke, and then took off. The child's father eventually came to pick her up.

The mayor of Monessen is trying to get help with the city's rat problem. Mayor Lou Mavrakis said yesterday that vacant properties are leading to the infestation, which also includes snakes. Mavrakis says he has written a letter to President Obama about the situation. Monessen has more than 400 blighted properties.

The death of a man, found along the road in Bullskin Township, is not being investigated as a homicide. Police say the death is suspicious, but so far there are no signs of trauma or injury. Todd Neiderhiser's body was found

on Brown Barn Road Monday evening. Witnesses claim to have heard shots fired and a vehicle speeding away. Police are looking for Neiderhiser's car, which is missing.

The children's "splash zone" at Carmichaels Pool is almost done. The new area in Wana B Park will be ready to open Memorial Day weekend and will replace the children's wading pool. Alpha Aquatics Center in Franklin Township and Mon View Pool in Greensboro will also open over the holiday weekend.

5/20/16

An exciting event in Westmoreland County will take flight this weekend. The Shop 'n Save Westmoreland County Air Show is planned for this Saturday and Sunday at the Arnold Palmer Regional Airport in Latrobe. Tickets are 18-dollars at the gate or 16-dollars at Shop 'n Save supermarkets.

Monessen's credit rating is going down again. Moody's Investors Service downgraded the city's rating this week calling its financial outlook "negative." Moody's officials say the city "continues to face significant challenges given its small and weakening tax base, below-average socioeconomic indicators, and above-average debt burden."

One person is in custody following an attempted carjacking in Hempfield Township. The victim was getting into the vehicle with her toddler in the Walmart parking lot yesterday when a man approached with a knife. A Good Samaritan stepped in to help and the suspect ran into the store, where he was arrested.

More information is being released about the man found dead along a road in Bullskin Township. The coroner said yesterday Todd Neiderhiser had a "cardiac event" although toxicology reports are still not complete. Witnesses reported hearing gunshots and seeing a car speed away from the body on Brown Barn Road Monday, but there were no outward signs of trauma or injury.

A man is facing charges for allegedly trying to rob three area banks. Aaron Huey was indicted this week for stealing from the Frick Tri-County Federal Credit Union in Uniontown and the PNC Bank in Carmichaels. He also tried to rob the PNC Bank in Charleroi. Huey is accused of using a gun during at least two of the incidents.

Police are looking for a 15-year-old Brownsville girl. Kaitlynn Mann was reported missing Tuesday after her aunt saw she was looking for a place to stay on Facebook. Mann is described as five-feet tall with a curvy build, shoulder-length black hair and hazel eyes.

5/23/16

A volunteer firefighter is being credited with saving a woman's life. Chet Bell jumped into action Saturday morning when a fire broke out at a home in the 400-block of Thornton Avenue in Greensburg. Bell lives just a few blocks away and arrived with a fire extinguisher before fire crews. He was able to save the wheelchair-bound woman, who was unharmed.

An Elizabeth Township teen is dead following an all-terrain-vehicle accident at a track in Unity Township. Sixteen-year-old Andrew Kraemer died of blunt force trauma Friday. He was in an ATV motor cross race at the Latrobe Speedway when he was ejected from his quad runner. Kraemer was a sophomore at Elizabeth Forward High School.

A corrections officer at SCI-Greene is recovering after being assaulted by an inmate. The officer was escorting the inmate from the exercise area last week when the suspect hit him with a piece of wood he had broken off of a fence. The officer was treated for minor cuts. The assault was the fourth at the prison in the last four months.

Governor Tom Wolf's environmental protection secretary is stepping down. Wolf confirmed John Quigley's resignation Friday but did not provide an explanation, simply saying he did a fine job. Wolf's office reportedly has been looking into an email Quigley sent from a private email address and Senator John Yudichak was previously quoted as saying there were "serious concerns" about Quigley's conduct.

5/24/16

The Greene County jail is going to start storing a heroin overdose antidote at the site. The jail will be keeping a couple of naloxone doses on hand just in case an inmate overdoses on an opioid while there.

Two people are facing charges in connection to the death of a 13-year-old boy in Mt. Pleasant. James Gustafson was fatally shot in the face by a classmate in March in a home on South Church Street. The residence and the unregistered gun belong to Joshua Hudec and police say the weapon was kept fully loaded in an unsecured location, leading to charges against him. An 18-year-old babysitter is also being charged for allowing 14-year-old John Burnsworth to get the gun to scare Gustafson.

Police are investigating a shots-fired incident in Mt. Pleasant Township. Witnesses claim someone fired a shotgun early yesterday at the Hideout Gentlemen's Club along Route 982. A window was broken but no injuries were reported.

Officials are trying to decide if an 80-year-old man should be charged after a failed suicide pact with his wife. Police say Edward Friday and his wife, Wilma agreed to commit suicide at their Cedar Hills Boulevard home Sunday. Mrs. Friday tried to slit her throat with a kitchen knife and when she couldn't, her husband allegedly did it for her. Mr. Friday then cut his wrist, took 20 pain pills and went outside. A neighbor saw him bleeding and called police. Wilma Friday is in critical condition. Edward Friday suffered non-life-threatening injuries.



5/25/16

Officers and firefighters who've saved people from drug overdoses are being recognized in Washington County. Nearly 50 of them were honored yesterday by the Pennsylvania Department of Drug and Alcohol Programs. They're credited with reviving dozens of people with the opiate antidote Narcan.

A Waynesburg man is facing charges for allegedly trying to fight jail employees in the nude. Jesse Watson was arrested Sunday following a disturbance at his East Greene Street home. Neighbors had complained to police about his loud music and Watson became belligerent with officers when they arrived. Watson allegedly grabbed an officer by the throat and was arrested after a struggle.

Officials are confirming that thousands of calls to the state's child abuse hotline have gone unanswered. A report released yesterday shows at least 42-thousand callers were not helped last year because they either hung up or their calls were dropped due to an overloaded system. Changes to child abuse reporting laws caused a spike in calls and claim the hotline was not staffed to handle it.

A school bus crash is being investigated in Hempfield Township. No children were on the bus yesterday morning when it overturned near Eastwood Lane and Humphrey Road. The driver ended up trapped and had to be removed.

Three South Connellsville volunteer firefighters are facing charges for allegedly filing a false report. The firefighters, who include the department's chief and president, claimed another officer harassed someone, but a subsequent investigation found it never happened. All three were charged this week, and a fourth was also charged for failing to register as a sex offender.

A former swim coach is going to take part in a first-time offender rehabilitation program after trying to initiate an inappropriate relationship with a teenage swimmer. The coach was ordered to serve six months in the program on charges of stalking and harassment yesterday. She reportedly coached the boy at the Laurel Highlands YMCA and Geibel Catholic High School. She sent the boy nearly four-thousand text messages during a three-month period and continued to send them even after his mother confronted her.

Police are investigating a death in Searights. Officers were dispatched to a home in the village early Tuesday morning for a "potential home invasion." The victim had been shot and tried to drive away before his car hit a tree.

A Charleroi man is recovering after being hit by a car in South Huntingdon Township. Michael Amati was seriously injured Monday night crossing Fitz Henry Road. Witnesses say Amati was thrown about ten feet and flown to the hospital.

5/26/16

State police are investigating an incident at Hempfield High School in Westmoreland County. They interviewed students, plus confiscated cellphones yesterday. No details about the incident were offered, but some students say it involved pictures posted online.

The fifth suspicious fire in Uniontown in four days is being checked out. The latest blaze began Tuesday at St. Vincent de Paul thrift store on North Mount Vernon Avenue. No injuries were reported but the outside of the building was burnt and the inside sustained smoke damage. Empty homes on Murray, Madison and Gallatin avenues also caught fire earlier this week as did a vehicle on Lawn Avenue.

State police are investigating a deadly ATV accident in Fayette County. The ATV driver was speeding Tuesday night in Stoneycreek Township, when he hit a man. The victim was from Friedens and was pronounced dead at the scene. The ATV operator, who is from Stoystown, suffered moderate injuries.

Fines are doubling in Pennsylvania construction zones. The change is in effect and also requires headlights to be used in all posted work areas. PennDOT says more than a dozen workers have been injured in construction zones in the last 18 months.

A Rostraver woman, who attempted to carry out a suicide pact with her husband, is dead. Edward Friday and his wife, Wilma, agreed to commit suicide at their Cedar Hills Boulevard home Sunday. Mrs. Friday tried to slit her throat with a kitchen knife and when she couldn't, her husband allegedly did it for her. She underwent surgery before she died Tuesday.

Two people are facing drug charges following a traffic stop in Jeannette. Deputies had a warrant for Jeremy Bogle and saw him driving on Lowry Avenue Monday. When they stopped the car, they found crack cocaine and marijuana. A passenger in the vehicle was also arrested. Bogle was wanted for failing to appear in court for a hearing.

The Liquor Control Board is going to allow certain Pennsylvania gas stations to sell beer. After an LCB meeting yesterday, Chairman Tim Holden announced that the board had approved nine applications allowing the qualifying businesses to "free the six-pack."

5/27/16

The rules on child car seats in Pennsylvania are about to get more strict. A new bill would require children to ride in rear-facing seats until they are two years old. The legislature passed the bill and a spokesperson for Governor Tom Wolf says he'll sign it.

The death of an elderly Fayette County woman, who attempted to take part in a suicide pact with her husband, is being called a homicide. 82-year-old Wilma Friday tried to cut her throat Sunday, and when she couldn't do it, Edward Friday helped her. Mr. Friday then slit his wrist and took 20 pain pills. He is recovering in the hospital.

Murder charges are not being dropped against a Jeannette teenager, accused of shooting his friend and posing for a "selfie" with the body. A judge denied the motion this week and Maxwell Morton will be charged as an adult for the 2015 deadly shooting of 16-year-old Ryan Mangan. The defense attorney asked to have the charges dismissed, saying Morton's statements were improperly obtained.

5/31/16

A rundown, vacant department store in Monessen is being turned into apartments. The Mon Valley Initiative is making arrangements for the almost two-million-dollar project which is being funded in part by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development. The old Eisenberg's building, at Schoonmaker and Fourth streets, will be turned into 13 mixed-income apartments.

Two people are recovering following a motorcycle accident in Derry Township. David Barkley was driving his Harley carelessly and too fast on Route 217 Saturday and hit another motorcycle. Barkley and his female passenger were ejected from the motorcycle and airlifted from the scene. He is in fair condition and she is critical.

Officials are investigating a house fire near Vanderbilt. The flames broke out early yesterday morning on Flatwood Road and heavily damaged the home.

6/1/16

A Latrobe woman is admitting to health care fraud after being accused of repeatedly dislocating her shoulder so she could get pain pills. Kari Richards pleaded guilty yesterday in federal court.

A woman is going to serve intermediate punishment and electronic monitoring in connection to the death of a McClellandtown teen. Lindsey Skocik pleaded guilty to involuntary manslaughter and was sentenced yesterday.

Prosecutors dropped homicide by vehicle charges in exchange for the plea. Skocik crashed a vehicle on Route 166 in 2012, killing Roxanne Wolfe. Skocik did not have a driver's license.

A man is facing drug charges following a search of his Donora residence. Dalton Lawson was seen going into the home of a known drug dealer Sunday. A short time later, police ran into him in a parking lot and found marijuana in his possession. Police then went to Lawson's Fourth Street home, and were given permission to search his room, where they found two bundles of heroin.

Polaris Renewal Services is trying to open a methadone treatment facility in North Union Township. A zoning hearing will be held June 22nd to review the application for the new business on Route 119. Polaris officials say the facility will be able to serve about 300 patients and is convenient for people in Uniontown and Connellsville.

A Republic firefighter is dead following an accident at an off-road facility. Mark Magazine was killed Saturday in Powerline Park in Ohio when he was hit by a utility task vehicle. Shawn Cape and Tonya Morehead were both charged for the death. Police believe alcohol was a factor.

6/2/16

A Uniontown man, already in prison for repeatedly raping two teenage girls, is going to do more time. David Carson was serving 15 to 30 years, but was sentenced to another 25 yesterday for taking cellphone photos of the victims on the bed where they had been raped. Carson's attorney argued he should receive a shorter sentence because the images were never shared.

Several teenagers are recovering after a shooting in Uniontown. Witnesses say a fight broke out between two boys on Murray Avenue Tuesday afternoon. A third teen allegedly fired multiple shots into a crowd, hitting two people. The shooting victims suffered very minor injuries but one of the boys involved in the initial fight had serious facial trauma.

The April unemployment rate for the region is up for the third straight month. The state Department of Labor & Industry reports the April rate is five-point-eight percent for the seven county metro region. That's an increase of three-tenths of a percent from the March figure. The April jobless rate statewide is five-point-three percent.

There's a new app providing information on trails in the Allegheny County Parks System. Trail App was launched Tuesday. It focuses on navigation information for each of the county's nine parks. Information on the trails includes length, difficulty, and live elevation when on the trail. Users will also have access to weather conditions and alerts.

Greensburg is updating its parking system. Drivers will soon be able to use an app to pay to park. The city is entering into a contract with Meter Feeder so people can pay with their phones and remotely add more time. Those who don't want to use the app will still be able to put quarters into a meter.

6/3/16

Westmoreland County officials want a smooth transition into the upcoming fiscal year. They have a rally planned for June 22nd at Courthouse Square in Greensburg to show how important it is to settle on a budget by the June 30th deadline.

Latrobe is remembering one of its most famous former residents. Starting June 10th, Latrobe will honor Fred Rogers, known for his television show "Mister Roger's Neighborhood." The weekend is called Bringing Fred Home, and a life-size statue and historical marker will be unveiled in James H. Rogers Park.

The Pennsylvania Department of Community and Economic Development is helping create jobs in the area. The department approved more than eight-million dollars yesterday in low-interest loans across the state. Mon Valley Alliance in Washington County picked up two-point-four-million dollars for a project that will create 88 new jobs.

A man is recovering following an accident in Canton Township. Officials say the victim was working on his truck Wednesday night when it came off the jack and rolled over his arm and torso. A medical helicopter flew him from the scene. He's expected to survive.

A Belle Vernon man is facing charges for allegedly stalking an ex-girlfriend. Scott Gantner was arrested at Cedar Creek Park in Rostraver Saturday after his ex called 911 to say she and her boyfriend were being chased. The woman told police Gantner drove his vehicle directly towards her and hit her boyfriend's car. Gantner is also accused of showing up at the woman's workplace and assaulting her boyfriend when he picked her up.

Officials are confirming that a student at Fort Allen Elementary School has whooping cough. The district sent a letter home Wednesday advising parents to contact a doctor if their child has been coughing. The illness is highly contagious. It's the district's third case of whooping cough this year.

Police are looking for three men who posed as tree-cutters to try to rob a Cook Township home. One of the suspects lured a woman out of her house Tuesday afternoon by asking about her property line. The other two men snuck into the residence and tried to steal a small safe but were confronted by the woman's husband. All three took off in a white Nissan Altima with Ohio plates.

6/6/16

Greensburg has some extra money for infrastructure needs. The city landed 274-thousand-dollars in state and federal grants for road and sidewalk repairs among other things. Greensburg officials applied for the money from the Community Development Block Grant in February. Next year's deadline is in September.

An 80-year-old Rostraver Township man is facing charges following a botched "suicide pact" with his wife. Edward Friday got scratches on his arm when Wilma Friday tried to stop him from slitting her throat. The couple reportedly decided to kill themselves last month, but Mrs. Friday changed her mind. Mr. Friday allegedly told police he grabbed the knife and cut her throat, even when she tried to stop him. He then cut his own wrists and took 20 OxyContin pills, but survived.

People are cleaning up following flooding in Ligonier borough and Ligonier Township. Emergency crews had to evacuate multiple residents along Mill and Loyalhanna creeks Friday after four inches of rain fell in the area. Crews used small boats to get people out and temporary shelters were set up at area fire halls. No injuries were reported.

6/7/16

Revised plans for a shopping center in North Huntingdon are heading to commissioners. The North Huntingdon Planning Commission approved the plans yesterday for the center near the Walmart on Mills Drive. An Atria's restaurant was also approved at Excelsa Square.

A Greensburg woman is facing charges for allegedly driving her children while under the influence of heroin. Kimberly Henderson was arrested Friday after police received a call about an erratic driver near the Davis Center on East Pittsburgh Street. When officers stopped Henderson, they found her three-month-old and her two-year-old in the backseat. A search of the vehicle turned up six capped hypodermic needles, a spoon, a tourniquet and empty stamp bags.

A man is facing charges for allegedly selling heroin while being treated at Excelsa Health Westmoreland Hospital. Staff alerted police to suspicious activity in Jeffrey Lakin's room last week. Officers stopped a man leaving the room and found he had allegedly bought heroin from Lakin. A search also found heroin and drug paraphernalia in Lakin's duffel bag.

Pennsylvania Correction Secretary John Wetzel says the Washington County Jail is in good shape and has a quality staff. Wetzel toured the facility yesterday, and gave it high praise, despite noting that it does seem crowded. Wetzel told county officials that the next step is improving treatment for inmates who suffer from addiction.

6/8/16

A woman is recovering after being hit by a car in South Union Township. The victim was in the parking lot of the Walnut Hill Shop 'n Save yesterday when an unoccupied vehicle rolled into her and then hit an embankment. She was taken to the hospital but her injuries were not thought to be life-threatening.

Officials are investigating an accident that damaged a home in Belle Vernon. Crews were called to the Skyline Drive house yesterday after a FedEx truck hit it. No serious injuries were reported and the home did not appear to have any major structural damage.

Three people are facing charges after being found sleeping in a SUV in Jeannette. The men were spotted in the parking lot of Johnny's Wife's Place Sunday, but when police arrived, they started to drive away. The vehicle hit the curb and when officers pulled it over, they determined it had been stolen.

The Center for Disease Control and Prevention is confirming there are now 23 cases of Zika in Pennsylvania. The number has jumped from 19 in the past few weeks. Officials say there are also 216 pending tests.

A bill that would allow grocery stores to sell wine is on its way to Governor Wolf. The House voted for the proposal yesterday, and if Wolf signs it, people could be buying wine in grocery stores later this year. It would also allow wine to be sold in licensed restaurants, bars, hotels, supermarkets and delis.

6/9/16

The fee to file real estate documents is going up in Westmoreland County. The county board of commissioners approved the five-dollar increase yesterday. The increase will go into effect in August. The fee for the documents will now cost 20-dollars.

Police are releasing more information about a teenager who killed himself in Canton Township. Sixteen-year-old Brandon Curry shot himself in the head Sunday night at a house on Euclid Avenue. Nine other teens were there when the incident occurred. Curry was a ninth-grader at Trinity.

Officials are investigating a fire at a former strip club in North Huntingdon Township. The flames broke out at Gloria's Cantina on Route 30 yesterday afternoon, destroying the building and evacuating a nearby daycare. The club was scheduled to be demolished.

Vitamin maker "Nature Made" is issuing a "Class-One" recall on products that may be contaminated with salmonella and staph bacteria. A "Class One" recall is the most serious kind, it's only issued when the FDA determines a product has a good chance of causing "serious adverse health consequences or death." The recall is for Nature Made Adult Gummies and Nature Made Super B Complex w/C & Folic Acid Tablets. The company has also recalled Nature Made Adult Gummies Hair, Skin, Nails and Nature Made Vitamin D 1000 IU Tablets as a safety precaution.

State environmental experts say there should be no adverse health effects from the recent natural gas pipeline explosion in Salem Township. The Department of Environmental Protection originally found "volatile compounds" had been released into the air. Subsequent tests released yesterday determined those who live nearby were only exposed briefly and the levels detected were not concerning for short-term exposure.

One of five former California University football players, suspected in a brutal beating, is serving time for the crime. Corey Ford, who police say is the main suspect in the case, entered a guilty plea Tuesday and was sentenced to one-to-two years with credit for time served. Ford and the others assaulted Lewis Campbell outside Spuds restaurant in 2014.

State Police are releasing more information on a deadly shooting in Searights, in Menallen Township. Officers announced yesterday that the second suspect in the incident, previously identified as "John Doe," is actually Christian Carpenter. Police believe Trenton Grooms broke into a woman's home last month, and was shot by Vincent Jones, who was visiting the residence with Carpenter.



Donald Trump is coming back to Pittsburgh. The likely Republican presidential nominee will hold a rally at Pittsburgh International Airport Saturday. Likely Democratic nominee Hillary Clinton will also be in Pittsburgh on Tuesday, although the location has not been announced.

6/10/16

OneJet is adding new flights to and from Pittsburgh International Airport. The Massachusetts-based charter company will start service to Louisville, Kentucky, in July and Cincinnati in August.

A fourth case of Zika is being confirmed in Allegheny County. The Health Department said yesterday that a University of Pittsburgh researcher got the virus after accidentally sticking herself with an infected needle. She has since recovered and there is no current risk of contracting Zika from mosquitoes in Allegheny County.

A man is facing charges for allegedly holding another man against his will. Dale Miller was arrested Wednesday after the victim, an 84-year-old man, called 911 to report he had been locked in his house for four days. Miller, who is a corrections officer at SCI Greene, locked the victim in a North Union Township home from the outside each morning when he left for work.

Honda is expanding its Takata airbag recall in Japan. The Japanese automaker said it's recalling about 784-thousand Odyssey minivans, Civic sedans and Fit subcompact models made from 2003 to 2009 to replace passenger-side airbags.

6/13/16

One person is dead after a car hit three motorcycles in Finleyville. The driver of the vehicle crossed the center line and hit the bikes on Route 136 yesterday. The victim was a passenger on one of the motorcycles and was pronounced dead at the scene.

A suspicious death in Jeannette is being checked out. Police were called to an apartment on Clay Avenue Saturday for a report of an assault and found the victim's body. Detectives have not released the 19-year-old man's identity yet, but say autopsy results are expected today.

Some North Huntingdon police officers are threatening to sue the township. The three full-time officers, who also serve in the Pennsylvania National Guard, say the township is not following federal guidelines for pay and benefits during deployment. The men say if the problems are not adequately addressed, they will sue for back pay, benefits, and legal fees.

Likely Democratic presidential nominee Hillary Clinton is going to be in Pittsburgh tomorrow. Clinton released the details of the stop over the weekend, saying her speech will "lay out what is at stake in November." The

speech will be held at the IBEW Circuit Center on Hot Metal Street and doors open at 10:15 a.m. Go to [HillaryClinton.com](http://HillaryClinton.com) for more information.

6/14/16

Police are investigating a home invasion in Uniontown. The victim told officers she was in her Pershing Court apartment Saturday morning when two men burst in, punched her, threw her down the steps and stole 600 dollars. Detectives believe the suspects were looking for someone else.

Police are continuing to investigate a suspicious death in Jeannette. Officers were called to an apartment on Clay Avenue Saturday for a report of an assault. Police found the body of 19-year-old Khalil Parker, who appeared to have been beaten. Investigators say autopsy results will be released later this week.

Two children are recovering after being hit by a car in Peters Township. The 12-year-old girls rode their bikes through a stop sign at the intersection of Gatehead Drive and North Heidi Lane Sunday and into the path of the vehicle. Police say the driver was not at fault. The girls are expected to recover.

6/15/16

Latrobe is transferring money from its capital fund to restore a Third Ward playground. The project is getting 25-thousand dollars, which was originally expected to cover the new Lincoln Avenue Trail project. The trail received a private sector grant, so the 25-thousand was expendable

A man is in critical condition after an altercation in Uniontown. Irvin Green Jr. is accused of stabbing Avery Crenshaw in the face, back, thigh and arm early Saturday in Pershing Court. The pair was arguing when Green pulled out the knife.

6/16/16

The state is receiving less money from natural gas producers in 2015 than in 2014. The Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission announced yesterday money from the impact fee will be released by July 1st. Westmoreland County is getting 400-thousand-dollars less. Derry Township will receive the most money in the county at more than 270-thousand dollars from 2015.

The Fayette County district attorney is going to try to get the death penalty for a Uniontown couple charged with fatally neglecting their toddler. Andrea Dusha and Michael Wright Jr. are accused of leaving the 23-month-old

strapped in a car seat for more than 12 hours in February. The child died of malnutrition and dehydration and doctors believe she was dead for hours before Dusha took her to the hospital

Three people are facing charges in connection to a prescription pill ring in Jeannette. Shauna Millslagle was arraigned yesterday and is accused of stealing blank, pre-signed prescription pads while she was employed by an Irwin physician. Police say at least 81 fake prescriptions were passed at seven area pharmacies giving Millslagle and two others access to thousands of prescription pills, which they then sold.

Plans are in the works for a drug treatment center in Waynesburg's business district. The Bridge to Wellness facility will reportedly offer a comprehensive outpatient recovery program for opioid addicts and will have counseling, therapy and a certified doctor at the Victoria Square site. No medications will be available at the center.

A man is recovering after falling from a retaining wall in South Connellsville. Timothy Nicholson fell about 15 feet near the Corner Bar along the Youghiogheny River Monday. He was rescued with a stokes basket. His condition has not been released.

Washington County is planning to buy the hangar and office from Air Charter Company. The purchase was announced yesterday at a commissioners' meeting and a vote is scheduled for today. Officials say extra space in the office will be marketed to other firms.

The Ligonier Township municipal building is getting a secure entry system. Supervisors approved the addition Tuesday. The system will limit access at the rear entrance to approved staff to improve security. An unauthorized person recently got in through the rear doors without approval.

6/17/16

A man is facing charges for allegedly attacking his brother-in-law with a sword. Police say Todd Clark went after his sister with a cane yesterday because she wouldn't let him smoke marijuana in her Monessen home. When her husband tried to intervene, Clark allegedly grabbed the samurai sword and sliced his face.

Neighbors say they heard an explosion before two homes in Westmoreland County caught fire Wednesday night. The homes were apparently both abandoned but one of them had power. There are reports that lightning could have caused the fire but officials are investigating.

First-time jobless claims are up sharply. The Labor Department reports that 277-thousand people filed initial claims for unemployment benefits last week. That's 13-thousand more than the previous week. The biggest increases in claims were in Pennsylvania, Ohio, Wisconsin, Louisiana, and Kentucky.

6/20/16

Highlands School District is considering a second police officer at secondary schools. The school superintendent says the board will look into the decision at today's meeting. The board could decide to use a Harrison police officer or a retired officer at the middle and high schools.

An Amwell Township family is filing a lawsuit against Range Resources and a lab company, claiming they conspired to alter test results for water that was later found to be contaminated. An attorney for the family filed the papers last week, alleging TestAmerica and Range Resources prevented evidence of contaminants from appearing in the report. Federal Environmental Protection Agency officials later found the water wasn't safe to drink.

The National Weather Service is confirming a small tornado in Fayette County. The EF-0 tornado hit Dunbar Township Thursday. Officials say the path was less than a mile long and reached maximum wind speeds of 70-miles-an-hour. More than 80 trees were uprooted.

Westmoreland Community Action is closing eleven centers and laying off 24 workers. The CEO confirmed the cuts last week, citing a loss of funding. Officials are deciding which centers will close.

A North Franklin woman is awaiting sentencing after admitting to stealing more than 200-thousand dollars from her employer. Carrie Ammons-Daviduk pleaded guilty last week to forging her boss's signature while working as a payroll controller in order to take the money. A sentencing hearing will be held next month.

A man is in custody for a hit-and-run accident in Greensburg. The suspect crashed into the side of My Sister's Bistro on Route 22 Saturday afternoon and then took off. A witness got the license plate number and police arrested the driver a short time later.

The Westmoreland County Republican committee is supporting Donald Trump's presidential campaign. Members made the decision Saturday at their annual convention even though GOP bylaws automatically require support of the Republican candidate.

6/21/16

The Hempfield Area School District has a new budget in place. The school board approved the more than 92-million-dollar spending plan yesterday. The budget cuts 16 full-time positions and adds a three-point-three-three-mill tax increase. The increase will add an extra 69-dollars for property owners.

Officials are concerned about a recent rash of heroin overdoses in Fayette County. There have been at least nine overdoses since Thursday and police say almost all of the victims were "dead on arrival" and brought back with an anti-overdose drug. At least one person could not be revived. Detectives are also investigating two additional deaths that may be heroin-related.

A Hempfield man is facing charges for allegedly assaulting his ex-girlfriend. The victim told police Seth Vanderella attacked her during a fight at his house on Friday. He's accused of choking her and holding a hunting knife to her neck.

The teen accused of stabbing 20 teenagers and a security guard at Franklin Regional High School has a new trial date. Alex Hribal was originally scheduled to be in court on Monday, but officials announced yesterday that the trial will instead begin on August 1st to give both sides more time to prepare.

6/22/16

Authorities are investigating a body found on the banks of the Monongahela River in Washington County. The body was found last night just after 6:00 near Route 837 in Carroll.

Waynesburg Borough is trying to get its sewage treatment plant back up and running after a fire. The Sunday blaze damaged the plant's main electrical distribution system. A temporary connection has been made to the Franklin Township Sewage Authority system. The plant manager says he hopes to have everything running by the end of the week.

A man is in custody in connection to a brutal rape in North Union Township. Rahmel Williams was arrested Monday and is accused of raping the victim in his car earlier this month. Police say the attack caused such severe injuries that the victim had to have her colon removed. Williams allegedly burned the car after the attack and suffered burns on his legs.

Officials are investigating a hit-and-run accident that left a motorcyclist with serious injuries. Michael Smith was riding on Bald Hill Road near Mt. Morris Saturday when a dark gray pickup truck knocked him off the bike. The driver then accelerated, hit Smith and took off on I-79. Smith is in stable condition.

A man is facing drug charges following a domestic dispute in Monessen. Brandon Carter was arrested Saturday and is accused of shattering a glass bottle near his young son at his girlfriend's Page Street home. The boy's mother told officers Carter "woke up in a rage" because he lost money the night before. She claims he hit her in the ribs, before breaking the bottle and then pushing the child down before leaving.

The community is getting ready for the Jacktown Fair. The event, which is the oldest continuously running fair in the nation, will kick off the festivities with the annual parade on July 19th. Organizers are taking parade applications from any individual or organization that wants to participate. The fair runs through July 23rd and the theme is "We Have Good Things Growing."

6/23/16

The Norwin School Board will have a more than 67-million-dollar budget this fiscal year. The spending plan was approved last night and it includes a property tax increase of two-point-two-five mills. Residents in Westmoreland County will have a tax rate of over 75 mills.

Tuition at Westmoreland County Community College will not change. Trustees yesterday approved the nearly 39-million-dollar budget, which starts July 1st. The spending plan includes a one-point-two-million-dollar surplus as well. The board also approved a minor increase in pay for administrators, coaches and other faculty members.

A Connellsville man is going to prison for stabbing his wife. Kevin Maraugh was found not guilty on attempted homicide charges earlier this week, but guilty of assault, and reckless endangerment. He was sentenced to five-to-15 years behind bars. Maraugh stabbed the victim 18 times in January while she was attempting to move out. Maraugh told police he "blacked out."

Westmoreland County is demanding an on-time state budget. A rally was held yesterday to show lawmakers that Pennsylvanians want the budget on or before the July 1st deadline. County officials say most of the human services department's funding comes from the state and call last year's 267-day budget impasse unacceptable.

The manager of the Joseph A. Hardy/Connellsville Airport is filing a lawsuit over false statements about him on a local blog. John Neckerauer filed the suit earlier this month, claiming his reputation has been damaged due to posts on the FayWest.com website. Neckerauer says the defendants have falsely accused him of murder and drug trafficking. The suit claims the statements are false, defamatory and harassing.

Officials are releasing more information about a body found in Carroll Township. The coroner is performing an autopsy, but says it appears Scott See took his own life. His body was found in a remote area along the Monongahela River Tuesday night.

A man is in jail following a fight at a Washington bar. Police say Brandon Allen pointed a gun at another man in the parking lot of Luxury Box Sports Bar Tuesday night. Witnesses say Allen eventually put the gun down and agreed to fist-fight, but while the pair went at it, a man picked up the gun and ran off. Allen was arrested on a parole violation, but is also facing assault and reckless endangerment charges.

6/24/16

The Central Greene school board is considering charging every student in the district a new fee. At a Tuesday meeting, board members eliminated the 40-dollar pay-to-participate fee, which applied to students involved in extracurricular activities. The new fee would only be ten or 15 dollars, but would apply to all students, as a "technology" or "service" fee. The board would like to have the fee in place by this fall.

Police are investigating a shooting in Mt. Morris. Few details were released but a witness reportedly saw a man punching a truck yesterday on Locust Avenue. The driver of the truck accelerated, throwing the attacker into the bed of the vehicle. The witness then heard gunshots and saw the victim fall out of the truck.

A man is behind bars after an incident at a Washington pub. Marquis Brown was arrested Wednesday for allegedly stealing a gun from the scene. Police say two men were arguing in the parking lot of the Luxury Box sports bar Tuesday, and one had a gun, which he placed on the ground when the fight became physical. Brown reportedly picked up the weapon and took off. When officers tried to arrest him, he ran, and dropped a bag of marijuana before being caught.

Two people have died as a result of a Uniontown shooting. Police were called to a Millview St. home around 7 pm Thursday evening. The porch & the back of the home were investigated. The victims names were not immediately released. A Nemaocolin man is going to prison for sexually assaulting three children. Shaun Harden was convicted of fondling the pre-teen girl and two boys in 2014 and was sentenced yesterday to four-to-ten years behind bars. All three victims testified against Harden.

6/27/16

A woman and three children are in the hospital following an accident in the village of Smock. The vehicle swerved off Main Street yesterday morning and dropped 150 feet off a cliff. The driver and three pre-teen girls had to be extracted from the vehicle by first responders. None were wearing seatbelts and all suffered major injuries.

More information is being released about a double-fatal shooting in Uniontown. Corey Johnson and Meshach Punter were pronounced dead at a Millview Street residence last week. Neither of the victims lived at the home. Two handguns were found at the scene. There was also a third man there, but he was interviewed and is not in custody.

Police are continuing to investigate a deadly shooting in Perry Township. Dustin Miller and his mother were driving to have his mental health evaluated last week, when he became combative and got out of the car on Locust Street. Miller reportedly jumped in front of a passing vehicle and began pounding on it. Miller and the driver got into an altercation and the driver shot Miller. Police say the shooting appears to have been justifiable.

Greensburg is getting ready to host a vigil for the victims of the recent Orlando mass shooting. The Greensburg Ministerium Association treasurer is planning the event for July 10th in St. Clair Park. There have been 500 candles ordered for the event. The names of the 49 people killed will be read aloud. The event will be moved inside if there is bad weather.

Police are investigating a pawn shop robbery just outside Belle Vernon. Two armed men went into the Cash for Gold store on Don Street Friday afternoon and demanded money. No injuries were reported but the suspects got away with some cash. One of the robbers had bandages on his face and a long mustache. The other was bald and had a goatee.

Police are looking for suspects in a vandalism at Latrobe Speedway's concession stand. Officers say someone broke in last week, smashed soda cans against the walls, carved graffiti into a wooden table and spray-painted profanities and pentagrams. Officials estimate the damage to be in the area of ten-thousand dollars and say the suspects also stole food and an audio system.

A mother and son are facing charges following a dispute in Penn Borough. The victim told police that Shawn Bernhardt was picking on kids in the neighborhood last week and then began yelling profanities from his porch. When the victim asked him to stop, Bernhardt allegedly attacked him. His mother then came out and hit the victim with a beer bottle.

A Derry Township man is facing charges for allegedly ordering his pit bull to attack a state trooper. Three officers went to James Bowman's Falls Road home Thursday to take him into custody on a warrant. Bowman allegedly resisted arrest and when the troopers restrained him, he told the dog to attack. A second dog also got involved and an officer was bitten on the elbow.

6/28/16

The Peters Township School Board has a new budget in place. The more than 62-million-dollar spending plan was approved last night, which includes a property tax increase. Superintendent Jeannine French is also getting a new contract. Her new deal goes through June 2021 and pays her 184-thousand-dollars per year. She has been the superintendent since August 2013.

Donald Trump will be in Monessen today. The likely Republican presidential nominee will speak at Alumnisource on Donner Avenue in Monessen at 2:30 p.m. His campaign says he will discuss free trade

Officials are investigating the death of an inmate at SCI-Fayette in LaBelle. Corrections officers found John Steckley unresponsive in his cell earlier this month. He was flown to Allegheny General Hospital, where he died Sunday. An autopsy was performed yesterday but officials say further testing is needed. Steckley was at the facility for aggravated assault and would have been eligible to be released later this year.

A man is facing charges following a domestic dispute in Forward Township. Police were called to a Ferry Street home Sunday and found a woman suffering from cuts on her hands and legs. Troy Wazny would not come out of the home and allegedly used his child as a human shield when officers approached.

A man is facing charges for allegedly forcing entry into a North Union Township house and assaulting a man. Jacob Weight got into the North Gallatin Avenue home Friday and hit someone inside multiple times. He was treated for several fractures and facial injuries. The victim says another man was involved in the attack but he has not been identified. Diet Pepsi is bringing back an artificial sweetener that it abandoned last year.

A man is in custody in connection to a Washington Township burglary spree. Joshua Steele is accused of stealing an AK-47, a revolver and a TV from home on Spiker Avenue earlier this month. A few days later, he allegedly took a shotgun and a rifle from another township home and a few days after that he's suspected of breaking into a Connellsville Street residence and stealing a revolver.



A Fairchance woman is facing assault charges after allegedly becoming violent in the back of an ambulance. Amanda Russo was being taken to the hospital after having a seizure last week. When she regained consciousness, she was combative and allegedly kicked and bit the paramedics. One suffered a cracked rib. Russo had to be handcuffed for the remainder of the trip.

A Boy Scout is recovering after being burned while making breakfast at Camp Liberty. The victim suffered second-degree burns at the Farmington site yesterday morning. Scouts who stay there prepare all their own meals and the Laurel Highlands Council says they'll continue to do so, despite this unfortunate accident.

6/29/16

The sewer system in Hempfield is changing hands. The Municipal Authority of Westmoreland County says the board voted three-one yesterday to sell the system for 35-million-dollars. The sale is expected to be completed July 13th. More than 32-million-dollars from the sale will go toward the debt of the new owner. Included as part of the deal is a freeze on sewage rates for the next three years.

The U.S. Chamber of Commerce is blasting Donald Trump's economic proposals. The likely GOP presidential candidate spoke about free trade at Alumisource in Monessen yesterday, proposing tariffs on imports from Mexico and China. The Chamber says Trump's plan would spark a trade war and lead to millions of job losses and a weaker economy.

The FAA is investigating after a small plane veered off the runway at Nemaquin Woodlands Resort. The accident happened yesterday near the miniature golf course. Four people were on board but no one was seriously injured. A hazmat team responded to clean up a fuel leak.

An eight-year-old boy is dead following an accident in Derry Township. Augustus Anderson was in the backseat of a vehicle stopped at the intersection of Route 22 and Stone Jug Road Monday, when it was rear-ended by an SUV. Anderson passed away at the hospital a short time later.

A Hempfield woman is behind bars after allegedly attacking her boyfriend with a beer bottle. Jamie Boggs was charged last week for the incident, which happened earlier this month as she and the victim rode home from a concert. A friend, who was driving the vehicle, says the pair began fighting over cigarettes when Boggs hit her boyfriend in the face with the bottle, causing a large cut and a possible broken orbital bone.

Pitt is going to sell beer stadium-wide at Heinz Field this season. Only fans in the club and suite areas were previously able to get beer at the games. Athletic director Scott Barnes says the sales could bring in more than 500-thousand dollars for the athletic program.

Pennsylvania is on track for an on-time budget. The House passed a 31-billion-dollar plan last night and it now goes to the Senate with just two days left until the end of the fiscal year. The plan increases education funding by 200-million dollars.

It also provides for 180 new state troopers, boosts funding for mosquito spraying to combat the Zika and West Nile viruses and calls for higher tobacco taxes.

6/30/16

Unemployment rates are down in parts of Western Pennsylvania. The Department of Labor and Industry announced yesterday that the jobless rate was slightly lower in Washington County in May than it was in April. The numbers were also down in Greene County.

As the deadline for the state budget looms, a proposed 31-billion-dollar bipartisan plan is almost on the governor's desk. Both Houses have passed the plan, which includes a 200-million-dollar bump for education, and are now trying to figure out how to pay for it. The deadline for the budget is Thursday night, but the House first has to approve revisions the Senate made to the plan. It will then go to Governor Wolf's desk for approval.

Police are releasing new details in the rear-end crash that killed an eight-year-old boy in Westmoreland County on Monday. The man that slammed his SUV into the back of the boy's car should have already been in prison, not behind the wheel. Adam Duffy had warrants out for his arrest in Indiana County. He has an extensive criminal record including drug and theft charges.

A Nemacolin man is going to perform community service and pay a fine after pleading guilty to hitting a boy with a whiffle ball bat. Adam Smith was also sentenced to 45 days of time served for the May incident. Tonya Smith told police she was arguing with her husband when he hit her in the face and pushed her, so her eleven-year-old son grabbed the bat to defend her.

A California man is facing charges for alleged insurance fraud. Matthieu Masson is accused of adding coverage to his vehicle, and then filing a claim for previous damage. Attorney General Kathleen Kane's office announced yesterday that the arrest was part of a statewide sweep that netted 43 suspects.

A man is in custody in connection with a North Charleroi pizza shop robbery. Dean Franks reportedly got away with the tip jar at Double M's Pizza on Monday night. Employees told police they saw him go into Thorpe's Personal Care Home across the street. Officers found Franks pretending to be asleep in a bed in the facility. They also found a BB gun in the room where he was hiding.