

SPORTS / B1

PSU Altoona women top Mount Aloysius



NATION / B10

Suspect identified in Canada mass shooting

Altoona Mirror

\$1.50

© Copyright 2026

THURSDAY

February 12, 2026

A STRING OF BEAUTY



Mirror photos by Patrick Waksmunski

Debbie Maze of Hollidaysburg (top) shows her knitting progress on a scarf during the “Twisted Stitches” knitting and crocheting club at the Hollidaysburg Area Public Library on Wednesday afternoon. The crochet, knit and needlework group meets at 5 p.m. every Wednesday and is open to all levels of skill.



Audrey Kephart (left) of Martinsburg crochets a scarf during the Hollidaysburg Area Public Library’s Twisted Stitches club.



Barb Tessin (right) of Hollidaysburg shares the progress at knitting a hat with Kathy Wolf of Altoona at the Hollidaysburg Area Public Library on Wednesday afternoon.

Charges updated for abuse suspect

Reese, Friday have cases bound to court in alleged Tyrone child pornography ring

By CONNER GOETZ
cgoetz@altoonamirror.com

BELLEFONTE — Investigators are only about one-fifth of the way through the alleged collection of child pornography files seized from a Tyrone home late last year, state police Trooper Jonathan Hodges said during a joint preliminary hearing Wednesday for two of the suspects.



Reese

Centre County Magisterial District Judge Casey M. McClain heard testimony from Hodges and two of the alleged victims, who spoke about the happenings inside the Taylor Township home of Samuel Friday, 67.



Friday

Both Friday and Morris Reese, 64, will have their cases bound over to county court, McClain ruled.

In addition, McClain agreed with the commonwealth’s request to amend Reese’s charges to reflect additional evidence uncovered during the ongoing investigation. More charges could be added as police continue to weed through the extensive collection of alleged child pornography.

According to court documents and Centre County prosecutors, Friday allegedly lured an unknown number of young girls to his home near Tyrone using offers of cash in exchange for sex acts with himself and several associates. Many of the interactions were filmed and photographed over a multi-year period, prosecutors said.

Friday currently faces two felony counts of human trafficking; two felony counts of patronizing a victim of human trafficking; 10 felony counts of child pornography; and four felony counts of sexual abuse of children.

See **Charges**/Page **A6**

Local centenarian remembered for mind, kind heart

Longtime Mount Zion member Thomas passes at age 102

By COLETTE COSTLOW
ccostlow@altoonamirror.com

A kind word and a beautiful smile were a typical combination for city centenarian Roxie (Harris) Thomas, who is being remembered for her lasting dedication to her church and community.

For more than 80 years, Thom-



Thomas

as remained a passionate Mount Zion Missionary Baptist Church member before taking over as the parish historian, where she preserved and spread vital history. She also contributed to the Sallie Harris Missionary Ministry, named in honor of her mother.

Meanwhile, she belonged to the NAACP, Women of Color and volunteered for 25 years through the nonprofit organiza-

tion Meals on Wheels.

She passed away from natural causes at the age of 102 on Feb. 4 at the Graystone Grande Palazzo.

“The community and church suffered a great loss,” friend Charles Dupree said. “She was a wonderful role model to every life she touched.”

Home and hospitality

Born on May 21, 1923, to Sallie (Ivey) and William Henry Harris Sr., Thomas was the youngest of 11 children and the only sibling

born in Pennsylvania. She was also the last surviving member of her immediate family.

Religion played a central role in Thomas’ early life, as her family became members of Mount Zion Missionary Church at the start of their lives in Altoona.

Thomas then graduated from Altoona High School in 1941 and attended Penn State Altoona before marrying the late Mahersal “Bonnie” Thomas on Jun. 15, 1943 — a union that lasted 74 years until Bonnie passed away on Sept. 8, 2020. Together,

they had one son, Dwayne. She is survived by her son Dwayne and daughter-in-law, Sharron; two grandsons and four great-grandchildren.

Thomas became a licensed practical nurse after completing her studies at Altoona High School Vo-Tech as a co-honoree in theory and application. She then worked at the Altoona Hospital.

Dupree met Thomas during the late 1960s after moving next door to Sallie Harris in Altoona.

See **Thomas**/Page **A5**

ZEIGLERCHEVY.COM

2017 Nissan Frontier SV V6	2024 Ford Edge Titanium	2024 Ford Maverick XLT	2025 Mercedes-Benz CLA 250
\$23,995	\$25,995	\$29,795	\$31,995

814-239-2125 Cars Cost LESS in Claysburg! 13153 Dunnings Hwy., Claysburg, PA

Classifieds	A8-11
Comics	B9
Legal notices	A8-10
Nation/World	B10-12
Obituaries	A4
Opinion	B6
Puzzles	B8
Sports	B1-5

