

Altoona Mirror

\$2.50 © Copyright 2026

TUESDAY

May 5, 2026

RECOGNIZING SERVICE



Mirror photos by Patrick Waksmunski

Above, Central Pennsylvania Nurses Honor Guard member Gretchen Eardley, LPN, (right) of Altoona presents a flower to Sally Weber during a nurses recognition ceremony at Garvey Manor on Monday afternoon. Ten retired nurses were honored at the facility.

At right, Central Pennsylvania Nurses Honor Guard member Robin de Koning (left) of Altoona talks with honoree Maggie Dodson during the recognition ceremony.



Defendant in crash receives 3-15 years

Lord pleaded no contest in fiery accident that badly injured passenger

By Rachel Foor-Muselman
 rfoor@altoonamirror.com

HOLLIDAYSBURG — The city woman who pleaded no contest in April to charges filed after causing a fiery crash in Altoona was sentenced Monday to about three to 15 years in a state correctional facility.

Breanna Mae Lord, 26, entered a no-contest plea to all 13 charges against her, including single felony counts of aggravated assault and aggravated assault by vehicle while DUI, single misdemeanor counts of unlawful restraint, recklessly endangering another person, possession of marijuana, possession of drug paraphernalia and DUI. She also pleaded no contest to six summary traffic violations.



Lord

The charges were brought after Lord allegedly drove into a building along the 700 block of 29th Street at a high rate of speed on May 2, 2021. The vehicle burst into flames and caused “very serious injuries” to both Lord and her passenger.

The courtroom was filled with family and friends of both Lord and the victim, with many taking the time to read statements to President Judge Wade A. Kagarise, who has presided over Lord’s case.

The victim described the cost of the crash and how it affected her and her loved ones. From her wheelchair, she told Kagarise the wreck took both of her legs, fingers, an ear and her hair and that she suffered burns “all over my body.”

The victim first had to rely on her mother as her full-time caregiver, but is now being cared for by one of her younger sisters.

“Every time I ask for help, I remember what I lost,” the victim said. “I never chose this life for myself, but I’m still glad to be here.”

See **Crash/Page A5**

PennDOT announces upcoming construction projects

By William Kibler
 wkibler@altoonamirror.com

PennDOT officials recently outlined its plans for a dozen construction projects in Blair County this year.

The costliest by far is the \$23 million resurfacing, bridge and accessory work on I-99 between the Claysburg-Sprout interchange and the Newry pull-off in Blair, Freedom and Greenfield townships. The project will include seven dual bridge rehabilitations and installation of dynamic

message boards. It will extend into mid-2028.

The next costliest project is the \$8.4 million pavement restoration and stabilization along 4.6 miles Route 453, Janesville Pike, in Tyrone and Tyrone Township, along with slope stabilization work. The project calls for a 23-mile detour involving Route 865 at Bellwood.

They also have a \$5.4 million resurfacing and drainage improvement project scheduled along Logan Boulevard (Route 36) from

Route 22 in Hollidaysburg to Plank Road. Traffic control will enable the project to be done without a detour. The Altoona Water Authority recently completed a waterline replacement project along much of the route — to avoid the need to tear up the boulevard after it is newly paved. The PennDOT project is expected to be done in October.

Next is a \$5.1 million project on the Business Route 220 bridge over Blair Gap Run in Allegheny Township, near the Duncansville Inter-

section. The work is scheduled to begin in the middle of this month and end in October.

Related to that project is the \$5.1 million replacement of two bridges that take Dunning Highway (Route 3013) over Blair Gap Run and Dry Run in the Duncansville area. The Dry Run project calls for an 8.1-mile detour that must not last longer than 28 days. The work will be done in June and July.

Next in line in terms of cost is the \$2.6 million resurfacing plus

drainage improvements along 1.5 miles of Route 866, from Route 22 to Route 2014 at Williamsburg.

A \$1.5 million replacement of five small culverts along Grandview Road near Pinecroft is slated to be completed in Fall 2027.

Work on the \$903,000 superstructure replacement of a bridge that takes Route 3009 over Blair Gap Run near Foot of Ten will take place between July and October, with a detour between July 20 and Aug. 17.

See **PennDOT/Page A3**

SunSetter America's #1 Awning
SAVE \$350 when you transform your patio into an outdoor oasis.



Call 1-814-800-4308 now to **SAVE \$350 TODAY!**

America's #1 Awning!

Classifieds	B9,10
Comics	B7
Healthy Living	A6
Legal notices	B9
Obituaries	A4
Opinion	B8
Puzzles	B6
Sports	B1-4

