

STRANGE NEW WORLD

College football chaos upending sport’s landscape

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WEEKEND

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A DAY IN THE LIFE



Nicole Whaling, R.N., a certified school nurse at J.S. Wilson Middle School in Millcreek Township, shows some of the nurse’s office and medical supplies she received for the 2025-26 school year. DAVID BRUCE/ERIE TIMES-NEWS

50 students a day

J.S. Wilson school nurse sees all types of maladies

David Bruce Erie Times-News | USA TODAY NETWORK

A Day in the Life is a monthly series in which we highlight some of the area’s more interesting jobs and how these people interact with the community.

More than 50 J.S. Wilson Middle School students visit Nicole Whaling, R.N., on a typical school day. • Some of them come to the certified school nurse for their daily dose of medicine for diabetes, ADHD or other chronic illnesses. Others are simply stressed and could use a few minutes sitting on one of Whaling’s cots. • On rare occasions, she sees a student who should have gone to the emergency department. • “One Monday morning a student came in and his hand was drooping. He couldn’t lift it,” said Whaling, 42. “He had broken his wrist while skiing over the weekend. We called his parents, who took him for a medical examination. He returned to school in a cast and sling.” • Whaling has seen and treated all sorts of maladies as one of seven certified school nurses who work in the Millcreek Township School District. She oversees the students at both J.S. Wilson, 901 W. 54th St., and the adjacent Chestnut Hill Elementary School. See NICOLE WHALING, Page 3A

PA Dem calls for Medicaid proposal

Intention is for enrollees to find job opportunities

Bethany Rodgers
USA TODAY NETWORK

A new proposal in the Pennsylvania legislature calls for Medicaid work requirements that mirror what the federal government is imposing. Under the bipartisan bill, Pennsylvania officials would have to seek permission from the federal government to enforce the new mandate, which would in general require “able-bodied” Medicaid recipients to attest that they are working at least 20 hours per week, attending job training programs or looking for employment. “The intention is to encourage physically and mentally able Medicaid enrollees to find employment, job training, or volunteer opportunities,” Rep. Frank Burns wrote in a memo outlining the proposal. The Cambria County Democrat argued the measure will “help individuals and families rise out of poverty and attain independence.” However, opponents of these types of Medicaid requirements say most able-bodied recipients already have jobs or are attending school and that these mandates do little to increase workforce participation. They also contend that the additional paperwork burden created by these mandates will

Mi Scuzi closes its Millcreek Mall spot

Jennie Geisler
Erie Times-News
USA TODAY NETWORK

Mi Scuzi Ristorante Italiano, 700 Millcreek Mall, appears to have closed Aug. 20 without much fanfare. Customers with upcoming reservations found out from messages from the restaurant’s reservation service that it was “closed, effective immediately.” Owner Michael Farsace couldn’t immediately be reached for comment. The mall’s owners are even confused. “We haven’t heard anything from the

owner,” said Joe Bell, public relations officer for mall owner Cafaro Group in Youngstown. “But they’ve closed their doors, and their website is disabled. “It’s puzzling, because they’ve been performing well for the past year, at least in sales, Bell said. “It’s a good restaurant... Don’t know what the story is.”

A brief history

Farsace ran Mi Scuzi at 2641 Myrtle St. from 2005 until spring 2024, when

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Mi Scuzi Ristorante Italiano closed its Millcreek Mall location on Aug. 20
PROVIDED BY MI SCUZI

