

## BATTLE-TESTED

Bishop McCort Catholic's 10 wrestlers bring experience to PIAA tournament; Chestnut Ridge boys, girls seek gold. B1.



## 'LEGENDARY'

Lou Holtz, college football staple who won 249 games and coached Notre Dame to national title in 1988, dies at 89. B1.



# The Tribune-Democrat

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THURSDAY

\$2.50 NEWSSTAND

# U.S. sub sinks Iranian warship

## Iran fires missiles at Israel as air attacks begin for 6th day

BY JON GAMBRELL, ELENA BECATOROS and SAMY MAGDY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

DUBAI, United Arab Emirates — Iran launched missiles at Israel early Thursday as aerial attacks in the Middle East commenced for a sixth day after an American submarine sank an Iranian warship and Iran threatened the destruction of military and economic infrastructure across the region.

Israel announced the incoming attack shortly after its military said it had begun new strikes in Lebanon targeting the Iranian-backed Hezbollah militant group in Beirut's southern suburbs.

The fighting continued after the U.S. and Israel intensified their bombardment Wednesday of Iran's security forces and other symbols of power.

Please see **IRAN**, A2



A shepherd boy walks away from an unexploded Iranian projectile that landed in an open field Wednesday in the outskirts of Qamishli, eastern Syria.

## Republicans vote down Senate push to halt war

BY STEPHEN GROVES, LISA MASCARO and MARY CLARE JALONICK THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

WASHINGTON — Senate Republicans voted down an effort Wednesday to halt President Donald Trump's war against Iran, demonstrating early support for a conflict that has rapidly spread across the

■ Pentagon airs last 2 names of soldiers killed in Kuwait strike/A2

Middle East with no clear U.S. exit strategy.

The legislation, known as a war powers resolution, failed on a 47-53 vote tally. The vote fell mostly along party lines,

Please see **SENATE**, A2

## No change to Cambria rating from S&P Global

Agency will monitor whether plans 'lead to financial stability'

BY JOSHUA BYERS JBYSERS@TRIBDEM.COM

EBENSBURG — S&P Global Ratings has maintained Cambria County's BBB+ grade and a negative outlook on finances in a new report after the commissioners sought an updated score for the 2026 bond series.

The commissioners are seeking a \$6.5 million bond to facilitate projects at the courthouse and the Cambria County Central Park Complex and to refinance existing bonds.

"As a part of refinancing our bonds, S&P has to give us a rating, and we had no reason to think it wasn't going to be the same," President Commissioner Scott Hunt said. "This is just part of the process of going forward."

S&P said the rating action "reflects elevated governance risk associated with weak risk management, credit culture and oversight."

"In our opinion, the county has been slow to respond to anticipated reductions in one-time federal stimulus funding, leading to a negative financial trend that we expect could continue," the report said. "We understand management has

Please see **RATING**, A2

## 'UNDERSTAND HER LIFE ON HER TERMS'



PHOTOS BY THOMAS SLUSSER/THE TRIBUNE-DEMOCRAT

Paul Douglas Newman, a professor of early American history at the University of Pittsburgh at Johnstown, gives the presentation "Matoaka, Pocahontas, and Rebecca Rolfe: Three Identities, One Powhatan Woman, 1596-1617" in celebration of Women's History Month Wednesday at Pennsylvania Highlands Community College, above. Below, American history enthusiast Elaine Adams, of Johnstown, applauds after the presentation.

## Professor puts Pocahontas into context



## Presentation part of Penn Highlands' programs for Women's History Month

BY DAVE SUTOR DSUTOR@TRIBDEM.COM

The girl and woman commonly known as Pocahontas lived in a matrilineal Tsenacommacah society, meaning that kinship, social status, power and inheritance traced through the female lines of families.

She was one of about 30 children, with 10 or so being

daughters, born to her father, Chief Powhatan, a polygamist who had multiple wives.

Their culture treated parent-child relationships like the roles of aunts, uncles, nieces and nephews are viewed from a modern western perspective.

She was known as Amonute

Please see **PROFESSOR**, A2

## Public Safety Building plan moves ahead 'very quickly'

Company checks out city's century-old fire, police headquarters

BY DAVE SUTOR DSUTOR@TRIBDEM.COM

In the two weeks since UpStreet Architects was selected to do the engineering design services for the renovation of Johnstown's century-old Public Safety Building, company representatives have met with municipal officials multiple times, used a drone to get a better look at the structure, and started to lay out some general ideas.

Details are being examined regarding HVAC, plumbing and electric.

Core sampling is scheduled to take place at the spot where an exterior elevator is being proposed.

"Things are moving very quickly," City Manager Art Martynuska said during a Johnstown City Council workshop Wednesday. "I think we're going to be happy with the end result."

Martynuska said the plan will include new modular jail cells.

Air and lead sampling is also planned.

"There's actually a full environmental being done on the building, which we didn't have to do that with this project, but we elected to do that with this project," Martynuska said. "We're getting all that accomplished."

Original blueprints and contracts were also found for the

Please see **PLAN**, A2

# Attorneys on both sides of homicide case eyeing DNA evidence

BY DAVID HURST DHURST@TRIBDEM.COM

SOMERSET — Attorneys on both sides of a Richland Township man's Shade Township homicide case plan to rely on DNA experts in the upcoming trial.

Somerset County President Judge Scott Bittner has scheduled a hearing Monday on the topic, as defense attorney Thomas Dickey seeks to have prosecutors make a broad list of files available before the May trial, documents show.

## Somerset County judge schedules hearing as defense seeks documents, data ahead of trial

Gregory Mostoller, 69, is awaiting trial on a criminal homicide charge, accused of gunning down Clifton Earl Johnson in June 2023.

Prosecutors have said Johnson was found in his barn, struck eight times by gunfire.

Johnson's family has alleged in a lawsuit that Mostoller was upset over a failed property sale.

Mostoller has claimed the shooting was an act of self-defense, alleging that

Johnson came at him with a wrench.

He has pleaded not guilty to the lone criminal homicide charge against him.

The trial is currently scheduled for jury selection May 11, according to online court documents.

Dickey said Applied DNA Resources, of Columbus, Ohio, has been hired for Mostoller's defense to review reports on DNA and serology — the study of bodily fluids, blood included — and to assist in the cross-examina-

tion of the Somerset County District Attorney's Office's expert.

In his 11-page motion, Dickey listed any DNA expert notes, documents or data as documents he wants to be provided by prosecutors as discovery — and said he's already requested the information from Somerset County prosecutors.

Dickey also requested any crime scene photos or videos that might be used by the commonwealth's experts

to assist them with their DNA analysis and findings.

Dickey said Mostoller's move to acquire Applied DNA Resources to assist in the case will not delay the current trial schedule.

Bittner has planned for five days of trial in May.

David Hurst is a reporter for The Tribune-Democrat. Follow him on Twitter and Instagram @TDDavidHurst.

## LOCAL

**America250 group plans Fourth of July fest in Ebensburg. A3.**

## ENTERTAINMENT

**Nature, conservation expo coming to city. A4.**

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GOOD MORNING, RONALD OLENIK! THANK YOU FOR SUBSCRIBING TO THE TRIBUNE-DEMOCRAT.

## LOTTERY

**Wednesday's Powerball 07-14-42-47-56**  
Powerball: **06**  
Power Play: **4**  
More Lottery numbers: **B8**

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**WEATHER**  
**Rain at times; a t-storm tonight.**  
**High 59, low 54.**  
**Five-day forecast/B8**

