



BACK TO THE BURGH

MCCUTCHEN RETURNS TO PNC, IN SPORTS

Daily American

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Three arrested in Central City drug raid

BY THE DAILY AMERICAN

Three men were arrested in a drug raid Thursday morning in a Central City apartment building.

While executing a search warrant at an apartment building in the 200 block of Bunker Hill Road, police discovered cocaine, marijuana, heroin and meth in three apartments, according to a probable-cause affidavit.

Michael Inks, 24, Larry Henry, 65, and Isaiah Mangum, 20, were all charged with varying degrees of drug-related offenses.

Inks, of 208 Bunker Hill Road, was charged with two felonies of drug possession with intent to deliver and three misdemeanors of drug possession.

Police said they found 87 heroin stamp bags, three baggies containing small amounts of cocaine and marijuana, a digital scale, glass pipes and \$1,384 in cash.

Inks told police that the cash represented proceeds from selling narcotics, and added that he does not use drugs, only sells them.

He was arraigned at 12:45 p.m. Thursday before District Judge Bill Seger in Windber. A preliminary hearing is scheduled for 12:30 p.m. May 23.

Henry, of 206 Bunker Hill Road, was charged with felony drug possession with intent to deliver, felony drug possession and two misdemeanors of drug possession.

Police said they located marijuana, meth, a marijuana pipe, a digital scale and empty plastic bags in Henry's apartment.

Henry was arraigned at 1 p.m. Thursday before District Judge Bill Seger in Windber.

(See RAID, A5)

DAILY AMERICAN Sports ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS 2018



SPECIAL SECTION INSIDE

ADDISON IS GEARING UP FOR BIG EVENTS



It's a big year for the National Road and the Somerfield Bridge
MORE ON PAGE D1

Corrections crisis

Mentally ill inmates overpopulate prison and jail system

By CODY McDEVITT
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(This is the first part in a two-part series about how jails and

prisons in the area have been inundated with mentally ill inmates.)

Different mental illnesses create different

scenarios for Kyle Landis, a guard at the Somerset County Jail. With a schizophrenic, he can speak to them and they can go into some other mindset. The

inmate will look at Landis while listening to voices in his head. It's not the only form of mental issues Landis sees.

(See CRISIS, A3)

THE BIG REVEAL

Alyssa Buck, a senior at Somerset Area High School, talks to a crowd during the unveiling of the mural painted by around 70 Somerset students at the Pennsylvania Turnpike's South Somerset Service Plaza. The project is part of a statewide effort by the Pennsylvania Council on the Arts, called Art Sparks. As part of the program, students across the state work on similar projects for service plazas. The piece at the Somerset plaza covers the four seasons, as well as many of the area's main attractions and landmarks.



Photo by Travis Fausey

Corsa reports revenue growth in first quarter

By CODY McDEVITT
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Corsa Coal Corp. released financial results

for the first quarter of 2018 on Wednesday. The company reported more than \$80 million in revenue from continuing op-

erations, a 54 percent improvement over the first quarter of 2017.

"In the first quarter, Corsa made significant

progress on its aggressive growth strategy," CEO George Dethlefsen said in a press release.

(See GROWTH, A5)

Summit set, detainees free; Trump sees N. Korea 'big success'

By ZEKE MILLER, JILL COLVIN AND MATTHEW LEE
ASSOCIATED PRESS

WASHINGTON (AP) — Envisioning "a very special moment for world peace," President Donald Trump announced Thursday he will meet North Korea's Kim Jong Un for highly anticipated summit talks in Singapore on June 12.

He set the stage for his announcement by hosting a 3 a.m., made-for-TV welcome home for three Americans held by Kim's government.

(See SUMMIT, A5)



AP photo

President Donald Trump, accompanied by Secretary of State Mike Pompeo, back, shakes hands with former North Korean detainees Kim Dong Chul and Kim Hak Song, upon their arrival Thursday at Andrews Air Force Base, Md.

Berlin property taxes set to rise

By ERIC KIETA
ERICK@DAILYAMERICAN.COM

Property taxes in the Berlin Brothersvalley School District appear to be on the rise.

During a meeting Thursday night the school board passed a tentative \$12.8 million 2018-19 budget that increases the tax rate by 0.75 mills. The increase was passed by a 5-4 vote. Board members Terry Metzgar, Kevin Bruck, Ben Scheller and

Steve Spochart cast the dissenting votes.

Prior to the vote, Metzgar made a motion to keep the tax rate at 28 mills. Bruck seconded the motion, but it was voted down by Spochart and fellow board members Melanie Belcher, Jeremy Broadwater, Donna Dively, Cathy Webbreck and Larry Philip. The new millage rate for next school year would be 28.75 mills.

(See BERLIN, A2)

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AREA DEATHS

William C. Hoover, 88,
Garrett
Lawrence "Larry" Earl
Ringler Jr., 75, Meyersdale

There's Good News
In Today's Newspaper
About Colby Ragsdale,
Olivia Marsh &
Susanna Cooper



Edible flowers, picking
the right fertilizer & more

SPECIAL FEATURE
IN SECTION C

INSPIRATION

Be still, and know that I am God. - Psalm 46:10



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Roundtable on possible hotel finds that Windber may not be marketing its assets

By MATT CHURELLA
DAILY AMERICAN CORRESPONDENT

Lindsey Kaptur and Gregory Hanis, of Hospitality Marketers International in Fort Myers, Florida, visited Windber Borough Wednesday and Thursday to conduct a marketing and feasibility study. The point of the study is to determine whether Windber is a marketable area for a hotel.

About 25 civic leaders and business people attended a group discussion Thursday to voice their

thoughts and concerns to Kaptur and Hanis at the Windber hospital.

Kaptur said they were looking for insight on why people might stay at a hotel in town.

“A hotel is built based on a diversity in why people come to an area,” she said. “This is kind of the key that gets you talking with hotel brands.”

Windber Borough Manager Jim Furmanchik said he is certain there are enough activities in the area for people to need a hotel.

Furmanchik mentioned a four-day event in Windber called Miners’ Memorial Day Weekend and Johnstown’s Thunder in the Valley motorcycle rally as examples of local activities that attract thousands of people from outside the community.

Eureka Coal Heritage Foundation President Matt Scislowicz added that the Miners event has had up to 25,000 people attend in past years. Hanis said Windber has an impressive community with its medical center and other

nearby attractions, such as the Flight 93 National Memorial in Stonycreek Township. “You don’t find communities like this from across the country,” he said.

He said he could not find many of the local attractions listed on the Windber website.

“Your website has very little (reference) of what you just talked about,” Hanis told attendees. “It’s one of the (area’s) best kept secrets.”

Hanis said a hotel would have to be built in

accordance with zoning and code requirements.

Windber Area Economic Development Committee President John Venzon said he does not consider state requirements to be an issue for getting a hotel in Windber. “You know you have to deal with that. I don’t consider that at all to be an issue because you can overcome all that stuff. It’s getting that client to your hotel. That’s the issue that I have,” he said.

Venzon offered a solution to get drivers to stop in Windber Borough and

stay at a hotel.

“How do we get them here? You market it. We need a marketing group in Windber,” Venzon said.

Hanis said, however, that marketing the area would not attract big hotel brands. “A lot of times it takes a local interest and we need local support from financial institutions,” Hanis said.

It is unclear when the study’s results are to be shared with the public, or whether a hotel is to be built in Windber if the results were positive.

Crisis

(Continued from A1)

Sometimes they just go off. “Something can just trigger them,” Landis said. “Sometimes there are trigger words from the past that have created a mental illness like PTSD. And all of a sudden they can just snap and it creates a very large issue to where we have to control that inmate. Plus we have to place that inmate sometimes in a place where they’re not going to harm themselves or someone else. An inmate who doesn’t have mental illness doesn’t have as much tendency to snap.”

Since the state mental hospitals have by and large closed in Pennsylvania, many people with mental illnesses who break the law are sent to jails and prisons instead. It’s changed corrections work in jails and prisons in the state. Guards, wardens and mental health experts in Cambria and Somerset counties have been challenged with treating these people while also continuing their role in guarding the public against violent offenders.

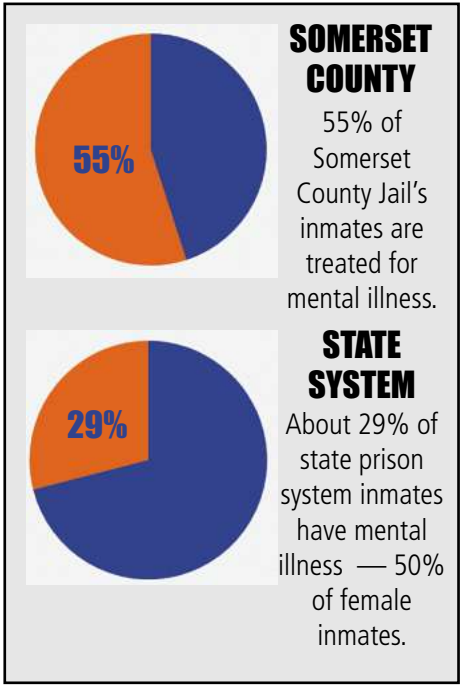
About 21 percent of the Cambria County Prison’s inmates are on some type of psychiatric medication. Warden Christian Smith said he doesn’t know the total number of mentally ill inmates there. They’ve adapted the best they could.

“We deal with multiple different inmate populations,” Smith said. “As far as complications, from my standpoint, we deal with what is thrown at us. And we do our best to make sure everyone gets their proper care when they’re housed here. I would say complications are . . . sometimes those individuals would be better served by treatment or hospitalization rather than incarceration.”

Fifty-five percent of the Somerset County Jail’s inmates are treated for mental illness. A large portion of that figure includes people with conditions such as bipolar disorder and schizophrenia, according to Warden Greg Briggs.

“On a daily basis, we have to use our communication skills instead of force,” Briggs said. “The old way was throw them in a cell and forget about them. That style has definitely gone away. You have to make sure they’re checked by medical and mental health professionals. There’s a lot more interaction with the medical department than there used to be.”

In the state prison system, about 29



percent of the inmate population has a mental illness. For female prisoners, that figure is 50 percent. The situation is getting more drastic, according to John Wetzel, secretary of the Pennsylvania Department of Corrections.

“The numbers keep getting bigger,” Wetzel said. “So we haven’t done enough.”

Deinstitutionalization

In the 1950s a movement began to move psychiatric care away from state hospitals into the community. Personal autonomy became one of the key components of it. Widespread abuses existed in the state hospitals and were made famous with the 1975 film “One Flew Over the Cuckoo’s Nest,” starring Jack Nicholson as a patient who goes to a mental hospital to avoid hard labor.

Alisa Roth, who wrote “Insane: America’s Criminal Treatment of Mental Illness,” published by Basic Books in 2018, said there were more people living in those institutions than needed to be. So in that sense, deinstitutionalization was a success. But she thinks the system has failed in another way.

“We don’t provide enough preventative care and in the community,” Roth said. “I think the deinstitutionalization succeeded. But we failed on the mental health care front.”

Roth said it’s like putting a bunch of

preschoolers into a college class.

“It’s fundamentally the wrong place. (Jails and prisons) are psychotogenic,” Roth said. “In other words, they trigger psychosis. At best, it’s useless and at worst, counterproductive to put people with serious mental illness in prison. I don’t think we accomplish anything by doing it.”

Wetzel said the transition of state prison systems to being mental health providers has been a slow process over the last 20 to 25 years. It changed when the Criminal Justice/Mental Health Consensus Project came out in 2002. The report indicated that people with mental illnesses were falling through the cracks of the country’s social safety net and were landing in the criminal justice system at an alarming rate.

“That was really the first national look that said we had a problem,” Wetzel said.

Many of the people in prison are there because of behaviors related to their mental illness, according to Dominic Sisti, director for the Scattergood Program for Applied Ethics of Behavioral Health Care at the Perelman School of Medicine at the University of Pennsylvania. Sisti argues for more state hospitals and a more robust system in general. He doesn’t want to go back to systemic abuses in mental asylums though.

“We should not be warehousing anyone. However, we should be providing the appropriate treatment to individuals who need that treatment,” Sisti said. “It might be a case where they need to be placed in a hospital setting. Being inside a correctional setting is often not the appropriate place for these individuals. I do share the concern that there could be unintended consequences of warehousing and abuse.”

Keeping them alive

It’s hard for a mentally ill inmate to be in jail because they’re in and out so often that they don’t understand the consequences of what they did or don’t remember what happened. Landis said they get irritated or agitated. So the best way the inmates can think of to get out of the situation is to attempt suicide.

“Honestly it seems like it comes in bunches. It’s weird to say that,” Landis

said. “But when one inmate has an issue with self-harm, it seems like at that time, we get two or three that try. Then we sometimes go months without having any issues with anybody trying to commit self-harm. Then we go back on the track to two or three doing it for a month and a half or two months until they get proper care.”

Sometimes the inmates refuse to take medications. Part of the jail guard’s job is to convince them to. But the thing that bothers the guards the most is not that. It’s the restraint chair. Used in almost every facility in the state, it’s a device in which suicidal inmates are strapped for up to eight hours to prevent further attempts. Every two hours, they are allowed to move their extremities and are fed food.

“Every time we do it, we’re reluctant,” Landis said. “Honest to God, we don’t like using it. The thing is it’s creating a prevention to them harming themselves. Even if they’re on constant watch, they continue to attempt to harm themselves. We attempt to talk them out of doing it. And if they don’t stop, then it creates a situation that there is nothing we can do.”

Briggs said they use the restraint chair once a month. Since 2014, the state Department of Corrections has put 519 inmates in a restraining chair, according to statistics kept by staff there. In 2017 inmates remained in the restraint chair for a total of 2.9 hours on average. Smith said he doesn’t have statistics on how frequently they use the restraint chair in Cambria County, but they do have one at the facility.

“It’s used as a last resort,” Smith said. “And it’s only used in cases in which an individual is considered to be a threat to cause harm to himself or others. They have to have a realistic threat of harming someone. It’s not for mentally ill people just because they’re mentally ill. But it’s used sparingly.”

Roth said four-point restraints are not frequently used in traditional psychiatric hospital units. In the course of writing her book, she came across one mental health expert who told her that their facility forgot how to do it since it had been so long since using it.

“I’m not a psychiatrist and psychologist,” she said. “But I think we see things used in jails and prisons that we don’t see in regular care.”

MAGISTRATE REPORTS

WARRANT ISSUED

An arrest warrant was issued Friday for Jeffrey Allen McCleary, 30, Doney Town Road, Meyersdale, on charges of simple assault and harassment. The charges stem from a domestic dispute with his girlfriend, who claims McCleary pushed her down stairs from behind, causing her to fall and sustain bruises and scratches, according to state police.

The following preliminary hearings are scheduled before

District Judge Douglas McCall Bell in Meyersdale:

POSSESSION

Samanthia Myers, 38, Lower Listonburg Road, Confluence, was charged April 10 with possession of a controlled substance, possession with intent to use drug paraphernalia, driving under the influence of a controlled substance and summary offenses of driving on roadways laned for traffic, maximum speed limits and occupant protection.

State police said Myers drove 52 mph in a 25 mph zone in the area of Oden Street in Confluence Borough March 23. She also drove outside her lane of travel.

At the traffic stop, the trooper received permission to look in Myers’ purse and found a prescription bottle for oxycodone with the name Debra King on the bottle. Another pill bottle with the name removed was under the passenger seat, according to a probable-cause affidavit.

Myers had buprenorphine and norbuprenorphine in her system, according to a toxicology report.

A hearing is scheduled at 11:15 a.m. May 24.

DRIVING UNDER THE INFLUENCE

Joel David Rerko, 39, Summit Drive, Champion, was charged April 14 with driving under the influence and the summary offenses of driving on roadways laned for traffic, driving vehicle at safe speed

and careless driving.

State police said Rerko drove with a blood alcohol content of 0.19 percent on Gardner Road in Jefferson Township March 9. He crashed his vehicle into a tree on the right side of the roadway, according to a probable-cause affidavit. He had a strong odor of an alcoholic beverage and was acting slow and sluggish during his interview at the accident scene, police said.

A hearing is scheduled at 11 a.m. June 14.

POLICE BLOTTER

RIFLE STOLEN

State police are investigating the theft of a .22-caliber rifle, a wallet and money from a residence along Custer Road in Somerset Township.

Someone entered the residence via an unlocked door March 25-26, accord-

ing to state police. Anyone with information is asked to contact police at 814-445-4104.

LIQUOR CONTROL REPORT

The state police Bureau of Liquor Control Enforcement office in Altoona

performed the following activities in April in Bedford, Blair, Cambria, Centre, Fulton, Huntingdon, Mifflin and Somerset counties: Police received 121 complaints and made seven criminal arrests. Police conducted age compliance checks at seven licensed establish-

ments and found that no alcohol was sold to an underage buyer.

Police issued nine violation letters and 22 warning letters for liquor law violations. The number of citations issued for underage consumption and possession was 23.

DO YOU HAVE NEWS?

The Daily American counts on you to help us provide the most news about Somerset County. If you have news or a suggestion, please call us. For local news, contact Rick Kazmer at 814-444-5900; editorial issues and opinions, contact Brian Whipkey at 814-444-5928; home and family news, contact Madolin Edwards at 814-444-5934, and sports, Jeff Maurer at 814-444-5900. Our fax line is 814-444-5966 or send us an email to news@dailyamerican.com.

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MEMORIAL DAY EVENT INFORMATION

Community leaders planning Memorial Day events in their towns should submit information by May 22. Email the details to news@dailyamerican.com, or fax it to 814-444-5966. The information can also be mailed to: Daily American Newsroom, P.O. Box 638, Somerset PA 15501.

READY
TO LEARN



New QB taking it all in,
not 'bothering' Big Ben,
IN SPORTS

Daily American

Somerset County's Newspaper

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\$1.00

Iconic Turillo's building sold

Property transfer part of developments in Jennerstown

By JUDY D.J. ELLICH
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JENNERSTOWN — The red neon glow from the sign outside Turillo's

Steak House has been missing for nearly 2½ years. Lines of customers waiting to get into the restaurant on a Saturday night have become a memory.

But two Somerset County families formed a business to purchase the long-

time local eatery at 1618 W. Pitt St.

The new owners are keeping mum on plans for the building and its parking lot across the street, which were bought from Patricia Turillo for a total of \$110,000, according to property transfer

paperwork at the Somerset County Recorder of Deeds Office. When confronted with that information, Zachary Damico, one of the partners in the business venture, admitted they had bought Turillo's. (See **SOLD**, A3)

DA expands treatment directive

She tells county police departments to facilitate the LEAD program

By DYLAN JOHNSON
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A drug addict recovery assistance program that kicked off in Somerset Borough earlier this week may soon expand to other law enforcement agencies across Somerset County.

Pennsylvania Attorney General Josh Shapiro announced Tuesday that Somerset is the first municipality in the state to test the program. On Friday Somerset County District Attorney Lisa Lazzari-Strasiser emailed a directive to all law enforcement agencies in the county.

With the Law Enforcement Assisted Diversion program, or LEAD, in place, addicts who want help can go to any officer in Somerset County. The officer will then refer them to a certified recovery specialist for treatment.

(See **DA**, A2)

CORRECTIONS CRISIS



Staff photo by Cody McDevitt

Lynn Patrone, the mental health advocate coordinator for Inmate Certified Peer Support Specialists for the State Department of Corrections, instructs a class about the signs and symptoms of schizophrenia April 30 at the State Correctional Institution at Laurel Highlands.



ADD SOME YEARS TO YOUR LIFE

Here are some tips for better living
PAGE E9

Inmates deputized to help peers with mental illness

By CODY McDEVITT
CODYM@DAILYAMERICAN.COM

(Editor's note: This is the second part in a series about how jails and prisons in the area have been inundated with mentally ill inmates.)

At the State Correctional Institution at Laurel Highlands on the last day of April, a class full of prisoners learned about the

signs, symptoms and dangers of schizophrenia. The class was led by Lynn Patrone, the mental health advocate coordinator for Inmate Certified Peer Support Specialists throughout the state Department of Corrections. Patrone stood in front of the class asking rhetorical questions.

"What types of things happen when a person is experiencing hallucinations?" Patrone asked.

"Split personalities," one inmate said.

"They might be rude to you because we're just a character to them," another offered.

The program is one way in which the department has adjusted to keep order in the prison system. The theory behind it is that people with mental illnesses are often better at connecting, understanding and calming other people with mental illnesses who are causing trouble.

(See **CRISIS**, A9)



EVER WONDER?

Engineers may know why the Leaning Tower of Pisa doesn't fall
PAGE C1

No injuries were reported Friday after a sport utility vehicle carrying a family wrecked into a house along Clear Shade Drive near Windber. Windber Fire Department safety officer Glenn Gaye said that at about 3:45 p.m. the vehicle was traveling west when it left the road and struck the house in the 4500 block. Gaye said there were three people in the vehicle, but he did not have their names or ages. He said that after the vehicle was towed minimal work was done on the house to ensure stability. He described the damage as moderate. He said the scene was cleared in about an hour. State police and Northern EMS also responded to the scene. A police report was not available Friday.

VEHICLE HITS HOME



Submitted photo

Police: Somerset man caused wreck by attacking driver

By ERIC KIETA
ERICK@DAILYAMERICAN.COM

A 24-year-old Somerset man is accused of causing a vehicle rollover early Friday by hitting and choking the

driver.

State police charged Evan Healey, Village Way, with the crime, which allegedly occurred after 2 a.m. on New Centerville Road in Somerset Township.

(See **WRECK**, A3)

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AREA DEATH

Barry Lynn Weimer, 73,
Somerset

There's Good News
In Today's Newspaper
About Kelly Benes,
Robert Fox, Ryanlee
Kelly Williams & Sara
Beth Livengood

INSPIRATION

I was hungry and you
gave something to eat, I
was thirsty and you gave
me something to drink,
I was a stranger and you
invited me in.

- Matthew 25:35



Fake news about Eastwood
and Busch is debunked
GET THE FACTS ON PAGE A9

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NOT REAL NEWS: A look at what didn't happen this week

By THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

A roundup of some of the most popular but completely untrue headlines of the week. None of these stories is legit, even though they were shared widely on social media. The Associated Press checked these out. Here are the real facts:

NOT REAL: Clint Eastwood Leaves His Estate To The Trump 2020 Campaign

THE FACTS: Claims that Clint Eastwood is donating a Northern California ranch and other assets to President Donald Trump's 2020 re-election campaign are false, according to representatives of the actor. False reports circulating on social media claim Eastwood's donations include 40,000 acres of Nevada grazing land and \$7 million in cash. The sites say the campaign will use the ranch as a

Pacific Northwest command center "far from the prying eyes of Obama and the deep state." Daily World Update, a self-dubbed satirical site, is among the sites making the claim. In an April 27 story, it quotes the actor as saying his doctors have urged him to get his affairs in order. The claims are "false in every respect," attorney Kevin Marks wrote in an email to The Associated Press.

NOT REAL: Kyle Busch Found Dead After Committing Suicide

THE FACTS: NASCAR driver Kyle Busch is alive and well, despite a report online claiming he killed himself. The story from Sports Analog, which bills itself as offering "sports updates worldwide," isn't true, Busch spokesman Bill Janitz told The Associated Press. The false story claimed Busch shot himself at his North Carolina home at 11:46 a.m. Monday.

Crisis*(Continued from A1)*

"You can't always be readily available," Patrone said afterward. "So you have this as a resource. These guys are there on the spot."

To become a peer support specialist, an inmate has to have had a mental illness of some sort and must be serving a sentence long enough for them to receive adequate training to serve as one.

The inmates at SCI-Laurel Highlands who spoke to the Daily American did so on a first-name basis. The staff at the Department of Corrections wanted to keep it that way. Among the things they said was that correctional officers were not equipped to deal with the mentally ill because they're locked in with the criminal element. Most of them felt they were better able to deal with mentally ill inmates than guards. Suicidal thoughts and depression are what they encounter the most.

"I run across a lot of inmates who are in for life," said an inmate named Jeff. "They give up hope. And their health declines. You try to give them hope and bring up their spirits, but it's hard."

In January 2015 the Department of Corrections reached a settlement with the Disability Rights Network of Pennsylvania in a lawsuit the organization

filed in March 2013 concerning the treatment of inmates diagnosed with serious mental illness. The settlement outlined procedures that would send inmates with serious mental illnesses who are problematic to specialized treatment units. To comply with the settlement, the state has spent an additional \$40 million a year since that time on mental health training and support, according to department Secretary John Wetzel.

The mental health crisis has altered the way they conduct their work at the state level, Wetzel said.

"The notion that we would have 13,000 to 14,000 of our inmates on our mental health roster; it changes everything," Wetzel said. "State prisons were built to deal with violent and dangerous individuals. They weren't designed to deliver behavioral health services. So from having psychiatrists and psychologists and having extra training for our staff, it's changed everything."

Looking toward the future

Even though it's been a tough change, correctional officers have adapted the best they could.

"That population, the staff has bought into showing some empa-

thy for them," Somerset County Jail Warden Greg Briggs said. "That was one of the obstacles. To get the staff buying into it. But they do now. You still have to enforce the rules. So getting one inmate to follow orders as opposed to other inmates who don't have mental health issues challenges us. You can't show favoritism to one inmate."

Many experts think if there were more psychiatric units, there wouldn't be as many people inside jails and prisons. It would create a criminal justice system instead of a mental health one. Somerset County Jail Guard Kyle Landis agrees.


"I know that most state hospitals have closed down," Landis said. "But it's getting to the point that we're flooded with inmates that we deem necessary to go to Torrance. And because that place is overcrowded, it creates pressure on the county jails in Somerset, Cambria and Bedford. I think it would help to reopen them."

Christian Smith, Cambria County Prison warden, said he thinks the same thing.

"The individuals have to stay in our facility instead of a state facility until a bed opens up in a forensic unit," Smith said. "Any increase in forensic beds for inmates needing care would benefit the county prisons."

Alisa Roth, author of "Insane: America's Criminal Treatment of Mental Illness," published by Basic Books in 2018, said American society has never quite figured out its intent with the criminal justice system. Is it meant to be a penalty or something that prepares inmates for re-entry into the outside world? And where does mental health fit in?

"Are we punishing someone? Are we trying to convince them not to do it again?" Roth said. "Why do we lock people up? I think that at various points, we had a notion that putting people in prisons was an effort to rehabilitate them. We had to retrain someone to be a productive, law-abiding member of society. I think we've moved away from that in our prisons."



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John Eichelberger is the battle-tested conservative leader for Somerset County.

As one of Harrisburg's leading fiscal hawks, he's battled Democrat, and even Republican leaders to stop massive tax, spending, and debt increases.

- Consistently endorsed by the PA Farm Bureau for advocacy on behalf of family farms.
- Understands what a completed Rte. 219 would mean to the economy of our region.
- Supported community banks in the fight against Washington over regulations.
- As Senator fought for the 100% elimination and replacement of school property taxes.

John Eichelberger

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