

# Daily American

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## Official: Wolf to boost wages for state workers, contractors

By MARC LEVY  
Associated Press

HARRISBURG (AP) — Democratic Gov. Tom Wolf was expected to sign an executive order Monday ensuring a minimum wage of \$10.15 an hour for all employees under his jurisdictions and employees of Pennsylvania state government contractors.

An administration official would not give any other details about the order the Wolf is set to sign Monday. The official spoke to The Associated Press on condition of anonymity because the official was not authorized to publicly discuss the subject before Wolf's announcement.

In any case, the Republican-controlled Legislature has shown no inclination to raise the state's minimum wage above the federal minimum of \$7.25, one of the lower levels in the nation. The executive order could be the most progress Wolf is able to achieve on the subject, given the partisan gridlock that has gripped the Capitol in the past year.

The administration official would not say before Wolf can discuss it how many people would

(See WOLF, A2)



Nearing completion, the mural on the ramp between the middle and high schools in Meyersdale School District takes on the appearance of the rolling landscape found in the Meyersdale area.

## School's mosaic builds anticipation, piece by piece

By JACKIE COUGHENOUR  
Daily American Correspondent

MEYERSDALE — A mural in the hallway at Meyersdale Area Schools has become a work of passion by many. A passion for art, a passion for the love of community and working together, and a passion for perseverance in completing a job well done.

For those who have not been in the school recently, the mural is manifesting before the very eyes of people walking the hallway ramp from the middle school to the high school. The mural, not a painted one as first thoughts would vision, but one made of many, many tiles, or by



Photos by Jackie Coughenour

Elise Hutzell paints glaze onto handmade tiles which will be fired, then glued onto the mural.

proper terms — a mosaic.

It has been five years in the making. The art work came from an idea by Dr. Tracey Karlie, superintendent, who asked JoAnn Bolden, school

art teacher, if she would be interested in adding some murals to the school. Bolden was receptive to the idea.

(See MOSAIC, A3)

## Mountain not forgotten

By CODY McDEVITT  
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The mountain is remembered by many, missed by some, but forgotten by nearly no one who is familiar with it. Laurel Mountain Ski Area will once again become a part of the local skiing scene starting next year. And snow sports enthusiasts hope it will re-secure its place as one of the great ski areas near Somerset.

"Laurel Mountain is an iconic and revered skiers' mountain with a rich history, and its revival stands as testament to the strength of the Laurel Highlands as a winter tourism destination," Seven Springs Mountain Resort spokeswoman Katie Buchan said.

(See LAUREL, A8)

## Former first lady Nancy Reagan dies

By CHRISTOPHER WEBER  
Associated Press

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Nancy Reagan, the helpmate, backstage adviser and fierce protector of Ronald Reagan in his journey from actor to president — and finally during his 10-year battle with Alzheimer's disease — has died. She was 94.

The former first lady died Sunday at her home in the Bel-Air section of Los Angeles of congestive heart failure, assistant Allison Borio told The Associated Press.

(See NANCY, A2)

## McNelly celebrates her 40 years of nursing career

By BRIAN SCHROCK  
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If Sibyl McNelly had her way, she probably would be retired right now following 30 years of teaching in a Pittsburgh-area school district.

### AREA PERSONALITY

But her father, Francis, a millworker and small-business owner from Farrell, had other ideas.

"I wanted to be a teacher, either in history or English," McNelly said. "I was going to go to Penn State. But when I was a senior in high school, they had a glut of teachers and my father was concerned that maybe I wouldn't get a job when I got out of school."

McNelly's neighbor had just earned a degree in nursing



Staff photo by Brian Schrock

Sibyl McNelly has been a registered nurse at the Somerset Oncology Center along Kimberly Avenue for 17 years.

from Duquesne University, and her father suggested she do the same.

"So without any knowledge of what nurses did, I decided OK, that's what I'll do," she

said. "Not a good way to pick a career." McNelly attended the Uni-

versity of Pittsburgh. Were it not for a fellow nursing student who was also having second thoughts about her major, McNelly probably would have dropped out.

"I had a girlfriend in college, and when she wanted to quit, I didn't. When I wanted to quit, she didn't," she said. "So we both kept ourselves in school. And then it got to the point that we had so much invested in nursing that we figured what the heck, we might as well just graduate out of it, and we did."

McNelly wanted to be a school teacher for as long as she can remember. She even played school as a child. But that brief conversation with her father changed her mind.

She became convinced that nursing was the right profession for her while doing a pediatrics rotation at Children's Hospital of Pittsburgh as a student. She later took a job at the hospital in the orthopedics department.

(See McNELLY, A3)

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#### INSPIRATION

Those who hope in the Lord will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary, they will walk and not be faint. - Isaiah 40:31 (NIV)

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