

LNP

First 2 through

Manheim, SWS advance to LNP Tournament Midget semifinals

● Sports, page C1



Always Lancaster

ORGAN DONATION

A meeting between grief and joy

Local family's tragic loss leads to lifesaving organ transplant for 8-year-old girl

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A special bond between two families brought together through an organ donation grew stronger Thursday morning in Lancaster.

The Excentia S. June Smith Center held its preschool graduation Thurs-

day, and among those gathered to celebrate the young students' milestone were Evelyn Morales and her husband, Luis, and Nan Beachem and her daughter Kyree.

For the Morales family, the ceremony was bitter-sweet because of who was not there — their daughter

Arianna, who should have been among the graduating preschoolers.

Arianna, who was born with a brain disorder known as lobar holoprosencephaly, died in November. She was 5 years old.

Arianna's name was read during the ceremony along with the rest. Teachers also

sang Arianna's two favorite songs in her memory: "Itsy Bitsy Spider" and "Row, Row, Row Your Boat."

And Kyree and her mom were introduced as special guests there to honor Arianna.

Eight months earlier, on the day before Thanksgiving



BLAINE T. SHAHAN | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

● Eight-year-old Kyree Beachem, center, hugs Maria Morales, 3, at the S. June Smith Center on Thursday. Beachem received a lifesaving organ transplant in 2015 from Morales' sister, Arianna. With the children are Evelyn Morales, left, mother of Arianna; Nan Beacham, mother of Kyree; and Luis Morales holding son Gabriel.

DONOR, page A5

EDUCATION

Shortage of subs hits local schools

New law would allow college students to work

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A new school year is fast approaching and Lancaster County school officials will once again have to worry about a shortage of substitute teachers.

Although a new state law aimed at easing the shortage will allow some college students to substitute, educators are expressing concern about the measure and skepticism it will have much impact.

"I just don't believe it's going to truly help," said Jay Godwin, president of Delaware County-based Substitute Teacher Service.

The for-profit company supplies about 2,800 substitutes a day to 75 school districts across Pennsylvania, including all 16 school districts in Lancaster County.

"You might get someone a day here and there but it's putting a Band-Aid on a situation that needs surgery," he said.

Every little bit of help counts, though, said Bob Hollister, the superintendent of Eastern Lancaster County School District.

"We're short all over," said Hollister. "All the school districts are short substitute teachers for several years now — special education and science and mathematics especially."

Better or worse?

The new law was proposed by state Sen. Lloyd Smucker of Lancaster County. It allows education students who are studying at four-year colleges to substitute-teach after earning 60 credits.

The students must pass background checks and would be limited to 40 days of substituting in a calendar year.

Godwin said the number of students willing to substitute won't make up for the huge decline — as much as a 50 percent drop, according to the state Department of Education — in college students going into the

TEACHING, page A6

ELECTION 2016

HISTORY HAPPENS



ASSOCIATED PRESS

Democratic presidential nominee Hillary Clinton waves after taking the stage during the final day of the Democratic National Convention in Philadelphia on Thursday night.

Local delegates: Fans of Hillary or not, they join to applaud the moment

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PHILADELPHIA — Lancaster County's five delegates to the Democratic National Convention may not have all supported Hillary Clinton, but the historic moment Thursday night wasn't lost on any of them.

"She will be the first in a line of numerous women presi-

dents, and we'll be a lot better off because of it," said Lancaster Mayor Rick Gray, a Clinton delegate to the convention in Philadelphia. "It's historic for so many different reasons but really for what it means for the future."

Delegates like Gray brought an unwavering energy to the Wells Fargo Center on Thurs-

DELEGATES, page A5

MORE INSIDE

Delegate says he had run-in with Hannity.

● Page A4.

What to know for Clinton visit.

● Page A5.

Trump says he was just joking about emails

● Page A15.

1st female nominee: Clinton pledges to keep 'steady hand' in office

JULIE PACE AND ROBERT FURLOW
ASSOCIATED PRESS

PHILADELPHIA — Promising Americans a steady hand, Hillary Clinton cast herself Thursday night as a unifier for divided times, steered for a volatile world by decades in politics that have left some Americans skeptical of her character.

"I will be a president for Democrats, Republicans, independents, for the struggling, the striving and the successful. For those who vote for me and those who don't," Clinton said as she accepted the Democratic nomination, becoming the first woman to lead a major U.S. political party.

She drew a sharp contrast with her general election rival Donald Trump, calling the Republican supremely unqualified for the White House.

"Imagine him in the Oval Office facing a real crisis," she said. "A man you can bait with a tweet is not a man we can trust with nuclear weapons," she said.

Clinton took the stage to roaring applause from flag-waving delegates. But her real audience was the millions of voters who may welcome her experience but question her character.

She acknowledged those concerns briefly, saying "I get it that some people just don't know what to make of me." But her primary focus was persuading anxious Americans to stick with a Democrat for a third term and put aside their frustration with those who have been entrenched in the political system.

Party unity

Clinton's four-day convention began with efforts to shore up liberals who backed Bernie Sanders in the Democratic primary and it ended with an outstretched

CLINTON, page A4

ALSO INSIDE

Prosecutors drop murder charges in Sandra Levy case

● Nation & World, page A10

Casino liquor licenses a tough sale in Pa.

● Opinion, page A18

Local bookstores plan festivities to celebrate 'Harry Potter' release

● Together, page B1

Rio prepares for terror threats, but experts worry it's not enough

● Sports, page C1

OPIOID CRISIS

Potent elephant sedative emerges as latest threat in overdose battle

Authorities say drug is being mixed with or passed off as heroin

KANTELE FRANKO
ASSOCIATED PRESS

COLUMBUS, Ohio — A drug used to sedate elephants and other large animals, 100 times as potent as the fentanyl already escalating the country's heroin troubles, is suspected in spates of overdoses in several states, where authorities say they've found it mixed with or passed off as heroin.

The appearance of carfentanil, one of the most potent opioids known to investigators, adds another twist to the fight against painkillers in a country already awash in heroin and fentanyl cases.

"It certainly is a very disturbing trend," Ohio Attorney General Mike DeWine said.

A man suspected of selling carfentanil as heroin was indicted this week in central Ohio on 20 counts, includ-

ing murder, in connection with a July 10 death and nine other overdoses that happened within hours of one another. Some of the surviving users told investigators they thought they were buying heroin, but testing found none, Franklin County Prosecutor Ron O'Brien said. The suspect, 36-year-old Rayshon Alexander, pleaded not guilty.

DRUG, page A6

INDEX

BUSINESS A8
CLASSIFIEDS C9
COMICS B8, B9

LOTTERY A2

NATION & WORLD A10
OBITUARIES A13
OPINION A18

PUZZLES B6, B7

SPORTS C1
TOGETHER B1
TV B5

TODAY'S WEATHER

83 66

FORECAST, PAGE C14



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