

LOCAL & STATE

PENNLIVE.COM/MIDSTATE • TUESDAY, AUGUST 26, 2014 • A3

NEW CUMBERLAND

Doctor prescribes drugs in exchange for money, police say

NEW CUMBERLAND • A borough doctor was arrested after authorities accused him of accepting money in exchange for writing illegal Oxycodone prescriptions.

David A. Wait, 55, of the 1100 block of Bridge Street, is being held in lieu of \$2 million bail in Cumberland County Prison.

Wait was taken into custody Friday after a joint undercover investigation by the state attorney general's office and state police, according to charging documents prepared by William Delgado, a narcotics agent with the attorney general's office, and state Trooper William Dubbs.

Wait is accused of writing a prescription for 240 Oxycodone tablets in exchange for \$1,000, authorities said in charging documents. The transaction, which authorities observed Friday between Wait and a confidential informant, occurred in the parking lot of a Turkey Hill on South Third Street in Lemoyne, authorities said.

During the same incident, authorities allege that Wait also wrote another prescription to Delgado at the confidential informant's request. That transaction netted Wait another \$500, authorities said.

Wait is charged with three felonies related to the alleged illegal prescriptions. He was arraigned Friday night and is tentatively scheduled to appear Wednesday for a preliminary court hearing.

— A. Johnson, jjohnson@pennlive.com

SWATARA TWP.

Drowning death ruled accidental, police say

SWATARA TWP. • The death of a 20-month-old girl who was found Friday in a swimming pool has been ruled an accidental drowning, police said Monday.

Kaleesia Witman was found in a pool in the 500 block of Margate Road. Initial reports indicated she had made it to that residence after leaving a home in the 6800 block of Chambers Hill Road. The homes are a short distance apart.

The Dauphin County coroner's office determined the cause of her death was freshwater drowning. The manner was accidental, township police said.

Neighbors who found Witman in the pool attempted to perform CPR on her before emergency responders arrived and took over the process, police said. She was pronounced dead after being rushed to Penn State Milton S. Hershey Medical Center.

Anyone with information is asked to call police at 717-564-2550.

— Jeffrey A. Johnson, jjohnson@pennlive.com

EAST LAMPETER TWP.

Amish passengers robbed at gunpoint

EAST LAMPETER TWP. • The Amish passengers of a horse and buggy were forced off the roadway and robbed at gunpoint by an unknown man Monday in Lancaster County.

The robbery took place about 12:40 a.m. in the 300 block of East Eby Road when a white minivan headed west pulled in front of the eastbound buggy, forcing it to stop, township police said. A man with his face covered jumped out of the van and held a gun on the horse-and-buggy passengers, police said.

The man demanded money from the three occupants, who threw their wallets to him, then turned the buggy off the roadway and rode through a field to escape, police said.

The armed man got back into the minivan and was last seen heading west-bound on East Eby Road, police said.

No one was injured.

Anyone with information is asked to call Detective Scott Eelman at 717-291-4676.

— Jeremy Arias, jarias@pennlive.com

CORRECTION

» An item in the Police Roundup on Page A11 on Aug. 14 incorrectly characterized an alleged crime. David H. Johnson and John E. Madigan, both 50 and of Harrisburg, were charged with theft by unlawful taking and criminal conspiracy to commit theft by unlawful taking.

ELECTION 2014 | Immigration could be a major election-year issue, with potential to help or hurt both sides.

Poll: Border crisis on voters' minds

BY ERICA WERNER
The Associated Press

YORK • As tens of thousands of Central American kids have crossed illegally into the United States, GOP Rep. Scott Perry has suddenly seen immigration become a top concern for voters in his heavily rural district far from the U.S.-Mexico border, eclipsing even President Barack Obama's health care law and the deficit.

"I think people are very upset, and people have really been awakened to the immigration

issue where they haven't been before," the first-term congressman from York County said in an interview at a bus leasing company where he recently met with a group of small-business owners. "Right now, at this current time, I would say immigration is the No. 1 issue on people's minds."

It's the same story around the country this summer as polls



PERRY

MORE INSIDE

» Arrival of Central American children seeking refuge pushed back at local children's home, **Page A4**.

show the crisis of unaccompanied children at the border has made immigration a pivotal issue with November elections approaching.

Republican Senate candidates in three contested races have focused ads on the issue, and it has the potential to affect campaigns in unpredictable ways that hold risks for members of

both parties and for Obama.

For now, Republicans such as Perry are able to boast that the House took action to address the border crisis before leaving Washington for its August recess, even though the Senate and Obama did not.

Republicans "demanded that we stay and pass a bill so we could show the American people, 'This is what we stand for,'" Perry told the business owners, referring to the House GOP's legislation to spend

Please see **VOTERS** on Page A4

#HBGNEXT | THE ALLISON HILL PROJECT



1433 Vernon Street

the LEANING HOUSE of VERNON STREET

PHOTOS AND STORY BY NICK MALAWSKEY | NMALAWSKEY@PENNLIVE.COM

About 2009, Angel Rodriguez was trying to sell his home on Vernon Street. Heck, staring at \$20,000 to \$30,000 in home repairs, he even offered to give the house away for free.

But no one wanted to own the three-story house, least of all Angel Rodriguez.

So he packed his bags and moved a few blocks away to Swatara Street, thinking the house would sell at tax auction or the city would seize it.

Neither has happened.

Today, if you take a walk down Vernon Street, the house catches your eye. There's something off about it.

On a street where "skew" and "true" already have multiple meanings, the blue house at 1433 is a source of visual and cognitive dissonance that arrests the passerby and forces them to try and figure out what it is about this house.

Shift your weight from foot to foot and squint a little bit. No doubt about it, 1433 Vernon, a blue, three-story home that could have been constructed 100 years ago, is leaning — if a basic hardware store level is any indication — roughly 4 degrees from the foundation to the edge of the shingled roof.

Myriad things could be causing the lean — termites, a bad

#HBGNEXT

#HBGNEXT is a campaign by PennLive/The Patriot-News to empower you to help chart a better future for Harrisburg. Join by sharing your ideas and letting us know what's happening in your corner of Harrisburg life. Email us at HBGNEXT@pennlive.com, use the Twitter hashtag #HBGNEXT or visit pennlive.com/HBGNEXT.

SOUTH ALLISON HILL PROJECT

A team of PennLive/The Patriot-News reporters is mapping a roughly 60-square-block area in South Allison Hill, marking what is a house, a business, a church, a park. And yes, what is abandoned or vacant. The findings — maps, stories and photos — will be posted online alongside the ongoing #HBGNEXT project.

» To read more, visit pennlive.com/allisonhill.

Please see **HOUSE** on Page A4

PA GOVERNOR

Deficit could top next to-do list

MARC LEVY
The Associated Press

PHILADELPHIA • Job No. 1 for whoever wins this fall's election for Pennsylvania governor likely will be trying to solve the state government's messy fiscal situation.

Tax collections have been disappointing. Costs are rising by more than \$1 billion a year, primarily for health care for the poor and public employee pensions. Gov. Tom Corbett, the Republican seeking a second term in the Nov. 4 election against Democrat Tom Wolf, and the Republican-controlled Legislature have been unwilling to support a broad-based tax increase to balance the state's operating budget.



GOV. CORBETT

"You have to take a look at the entire, total picture, and I believe that we're in a better position with government."

But even after Republicans engineered cuts to education and certain health care and social service programs, the state is still facing a massive deficit that budget analysts expect will hit \$2 billion next year, if not more.

In an interview this past week with an Associated Press panel, Corbett swept aside questions about whether he failed the promises of his 2010 candidacy when he ran as a fiscal conservative who would govern the state's fiscal affairs responsibly and transparently.

"We were promising the people of Pennsylvania we wouldn't increase the tax burden on the people of Pennsylvania, OK? We were going to continue to work to reduce our spending, and we have. We promised that we were going to look for efficiencies in government, and we clearly have," Corbett said. "You have to take a look at the entire, total picture, and I believe that we're in a better position with government."

Corbett arrived at a

Please see **DEFICIT** on Page A4

GAS WATCH

\$3.37
Harrisburg-area average

EAST SHORE
\$3.29
Giant, Middletown

WEST SHORE
\$3.28
BJ's, Camp Hill

PERRY COUNTY
\$3.29
Amanda's, Newport

LEBANON
\$3.37
USA, Lebanon

YORK COUNTY
\$3.25
BJ's, York



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