

Battle-tested

Wrestlers from county schools show their mettle in District 3 Class 3A section tourney

● Sports, Page C1



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PARTNERS WITH LNP TO GO RED TO RAISE AWARENESS FOR AMERICAN HEART MONTH



LIVING

Willow Street artist's historical comics have run for decades in the Washington Post.

● Page B1



NATION & WORLD

Early voting begins in the Nevada caucuses as candidates take jabs at each other.

● Page A19



MONEY

Regulars at Lancaster city coffee shops show loyalty as Starbucks arrives on the scene.

● Page D1

IWO JIMA

75TH ANNIVERSARY

18 YEARS OLD. 7,344 MILES FROM HOME. GEORGE AUKAMP HIT THE BEACH WEARING A FLAMETHROWER ON HIS BACK.



WAR IN THE PACIFIC

JEFF HAWKES | JHAWKES@LNPNEWS.COM

Heading into combat for the first time, Pfc. George Aukamp wrestled with nerves. A farm boy from Lancaster County, Aukamp rode with about 20 other Marines in an amphibious vehicle bouncing across waves toward tiny Iwo Jima, where 22,000 Japanese defenders waited in caves, tunnels and 900 fortifications with orders to fight to the death.

Military planners thought it would take six days to secure the 5-mile-long island and its strategic airfields 750 miles south of Tokyo.

But the epic World War II battle, which began Feb. 19, 1945 — 75 years ago this

Wednesday — raged for five weeks before the Marines prevailed.

An intense bombardment from 450 ships preceded the assault. By mid-morning an armada of

IWO JIMA, page A8



TOP: George Aukamp was inducted into the Marines in 1944, after turning 18. **RIGHT:** Aukamp trained as a flamethrower operator and fought on Iwo Jima in February 1945. **BACKGROUND PHOTO:** One sight Aukamp said he'll never forget is the U.S. flag atop the 554-foot Mount Suribachi.

DAN MARSCHKA | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHERS; AP PHOTO

WASHINGTON

Justice Dept. is worried

A tumultuous week has lawyers unsure what's next

NEW YORK TIMES

In an email a few days ago to the 270 lawyers he oversees, Nicola T. Hanna, the U.S. attorney in Los Angeles, offered a message of reassurance: I am proud of the work you do, he wrote.

Other U.S. attorneys in the Justice Department's far-flung 93 field offices relayed similar messages of encouragement after President Donald Trump's perceived efforts to influence a politically fraught case provoked the kind of consternation the department has rarely seen since the Watergate era.

"All I have to say," another U.S. attorney wrote to his staff, "is keep doing the right things for the right reasons."

But the fact that the department's 10,000-odd lawyers needed reassurances seemed like cause for worry.

In more than three dozen interviews in recent days, lawyers across the federal

JUSTICE DEPARTMENT, page A6



P.J. REILLY

LNP OUTDOORS WRITER

Trout stocking to feature more, bigger fish

With all the wind and mild weather we've had lately, it kind of feels like spring.

Which means it kind of feels like trout season should be just around the corner.

For Lancaster and surrounding counties, it's not a stretch to say the count-down has begun to the April 4 opener. (Mentored Youth Trout Day is set for March 28 on local waters.) And stocking season begins in just two weeks.

The Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission has big plans for the 2020 trout

TROUT SEASON, page A4

RELATED COVERAGE

Hearing to be held this week on the change from Monday to Saturday for the state's firearms deer season opener. **Page A4**

INDEX
CLASSIFIEDS.....CL1
DEATHS REPORTED...A25
LIVING.....B1

LOTTERY.....A2
MONEY.....D1
OBITUARIES.....A21
PERSPECTIVE.....E1

REAL ESTATE.....RE1
SPORTS.....C1
TRAVEL.....B8
TV WEEK.....TV1

TODAY'S WEATHER

48 29

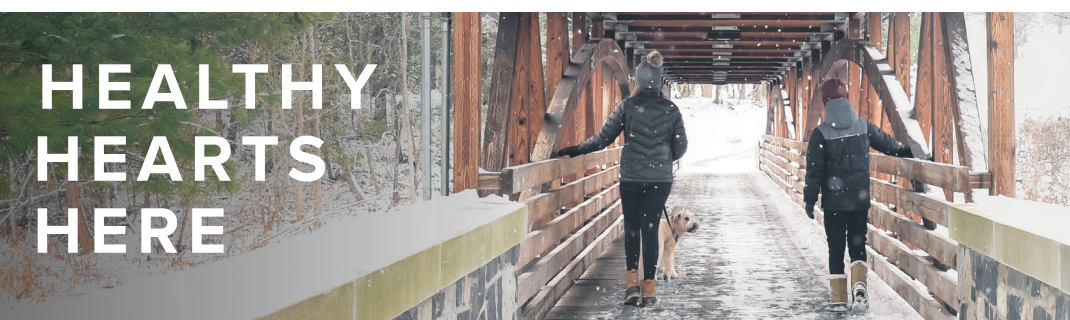
FORECAST, PAGE A2



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