

LACROSSE

HORSEHEADS BOYS FALL TO ITHACA

PLEASE SEE B1



SYRACUSE

ACCUSERS WANT SLANDER CASE RE-OPENED

PLEASE SEE B1



The LEADER

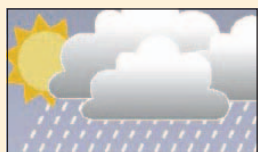
Wednesday, April 24, 2013

www.the-leader.com

\$1.00

MORE INSIDE

WEATHER



Rain in the afternoon and early evening. Isolated thunderstorms. Complete forecasts. A8.

GOOD NEWS



Students and staff at Horseheads Christian School picked up trash at Teal Park and Veteran Memorial Park. A2

NEW BUSINESS



Trinity Therapeutics opens at Hands On Chiropractic on Bridge Street. A3

COMING IN PRINT

Thursday in wknd.



Artists will open their studios to visitors in the first-ever Steuben County arts trail.

ONLY ONLINE

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Business: The 10 worst jobs in America.
Poll: How do you relieve stress?

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FORMER BOSSES TESTIFY:

Trappler: I have 'good' alibi

By John Zick
jzick@the-leader.com



Trappler

WATKINS GLEN | The Addison woman on trial for allegedly plotting the murder of her ex-boyfriend to keep the man from seeing their infant daughter was distraught in the days preceding the killing and later said she had a "good" alibi, her former bosses

testified Tuesday. Al-ice Trappler, 40, is charged with murder and burglary for allegedly enlisting her ex-husband to kill 30-year-old Daniel Bennett, with whom she had a young child.

The prosecution contends Trappler planned the killing to keep Bennett out of their daughter's life.

On Tuesday, two of Trappler's former bosses at Doug Gross Construction testified about their interactions with Trappler around the time of the killing.

Larry Knowles and his wife, Janice Knowles, told

the jury that Trappler was distraught in the days leading up to Bennett's killing. The day after Bennett died, he and Trappler were due in Family Court regarding the situation with their daughter.

Trappler told Janice Knowles that Bennett was a "monster," and she worried Bennett would do "terrible things" to the child,

Janice Knowles testified.

The day after Bennett was killed, Larry Knowles told Trappler he hoped she had a good alibi because she was going to be a suspect, he testified.

"She said, 'I have a good one,'" Larry Knowles told the jury.

In three days of

SEE TRAPPLER, A8

ADDISON BLAZE



A firefighter carries a burned mattress from a fire in a rear upstairs apartment Tuesday on Addison's Main Street. DERRICK EK/THE LEADER

Fire strikes Main St. apartment

By Derrick Ek
ek@the-leader.com

ADDISON | A woman and her two children escaped a fire that damaged an upper-floor apartment Tuesday afternoon on Addison's Main Street.

The occupants of the apartment weren't hurt, said Addison Fire Chief Kendell Jordan. The fire, which was called in shortly before 4 p.m., caused moderate

damage to a rear upstairs apartment at 30 Main St.

"As far as I can tell, the fire was contained to a bed, mattress and part of a wall. There was smoke and water damage," Jordan said. "The guys put a good stop on it, and it's a good thing they did, because it could have spread to some of the other upstairs apartments. There's no fire walls

SEE FIRE, A8



Tuesday's fire was quickly contained and caused moderate damage. The family escaped unharmed. DERRICK EK/THE LEADER

DEVELOPMENT

Soccer complex eyed in Big Flats

By Derrick Ek
ek@the-leader.com

BIG FLATS | A new soccer complex may soon be built in Big Flats.

The Elmira-based Soaring Capital Soccer Club is planning to build a 114,000-square-foot building off Sing Sing Road that would feature a turf indoor soccer field, along with attached locker rooms, restrooms and offices, said Tim Gilbert, code enforcement officer for the Town of Big Flats.

The facility would also include several outdoor soccer fields for daytime use only, Gilbert said.

The project has been approved by the Big Flats Planning Board and just needs a building permit, which Gilbert said he expects to issue soon.

The soccer facility will be located off Sing Sing Road, about a mile west of the Elmira-Corning Regional Airport. It will be built on land formerly used for riding horses. The site is behind the new Wings of Eagles Discovery Center, which took over a former horse stable and riding arena.

Gilbert said he wasn't sure when construction work would start.

Efforts to reach representatives of Soaring Capital Soccer Club were unsuccessful Tuesday. The club fields boys and girls travel teams ranging from the under-10 to under-19 age groups.

Gilbert said the new facility would allow the club's teams to host games and tournaments, and give the teams a place to practice year-round.

Young athletes and parents who visit the area for games and tournaments would presumably spend money at local hotels and restaurants.

ELMIRA'S SOUTHSIDE

Police raid alleged meth lab; man charged

By Jeffery Smith
jsmith@the-leader.com



Harris

ELMIRA | A man is facing a felony drug charge after police raided an alleged meth lab Tuesday at an apartment house on Elmira's Southside.

Michael L. Harris was charged with second-degree criminal possession of a controlled substance, a Class A-II felony.

Elmira police say they responded to a report of a disturbance at the house, located at 200 Harmon St., at approximately 8 a.m.

They suspected a meth lab and called in the New York State Police's

Inside

O'Mara's meth lab bill passes Senate. Page A8

Contaminated Crime Scene Emergency Response Team to assist after a search warrant was obtained.

The home was blocked off throughout the day as

police wearing hazardous material suits with breathing apparatus removed what appeared to be items used in manufacturing meth.

The home is located about a block and a half away from Parley Coburn Elementary School.

Lisa Boynton, a neighbor, said the area has

SEE METH LAB, A8

Advertisement for MT. FUJI Japanese Restaurant. Includes menu items like Hibachi, Sushi Bar, and a \$10.00 OFF coupon with purchase of 2 adult Hibachi dinners. Address: 830 County Route 64, Elmira, NY.

STATE LEGISLATURE

O'Mara's meth lab bill passes Senate

By Derrick Ek
ek@the-leader.com

ALBANY | On the same day authorities raided a suspected meth lab in Elmira, a bill sponsored by Sen. Tom O'Mara, R-Big Flats, to increase penalties for manufacturing meth was passed by the state Senate.

The legislation would increase criminal penalties for manufacturing meth as well as for possessing the materials used in cooking meth, implementing a series of increasingly severe felony offenses.

The bill includes a provision making it a Class A-1 felony — punishable by a maximum sentence of life in prison — for criminals convicted of operating a meth lab for the second time in five years or in the presence of a child under the age of 16. That's currently a Class B felony that carries a maximum prison sentence of 25 years.

Also, the punishment for the possession of meth manufacturing material in the first degree would increase from a Class E to a Class D felony, punishable by up to seven years in prison.

Meth lab penalties need to be increased because the toxic, flammable materials

involved in cooking the drug pose a threat to public safety, especially in residential areas, O'Mara said.

"We need to send a strong message that we're not going to tolerate the operation of meth labs. Meth labs pose unacceptable risks to our neighborhoods, threaten the safety of police officers and first responders, and burden local systems of health care, criminal justice and social services," O'Mara said in a statement Tuesday. "Our laws need to keep pace with the goal of putting meth manufacturers out of business in New York State. The only byproducts of meth are addiction, tragedy and violence."

O'Mara's bill now goes to the state Assembly to await action there.

A related piece of legislation, also introduced by O'Mara in early April, would increase the criminal penalties for the possession and/or sale of meth to bring the penalties more in line with the penalties for possessing and/or selling cocaine and heroin.

That legislation is currently in the Senate's Codes Committee. A twin bill, co-sponsored by Assemblyman Phil Palmesano, has been introduced in the Assembly.

DIGITAL PRANK

Hackers compromise AP Twitter account

The Associated Press

NEW YORK | Hackers compromised Twitter accounts of The Associated Press on Tuesday, sending out a false tweet about an attack at the White House.

The false tweet said there had been two explosions at the White House and that President Barack Obama was injured. The attack on AP's Twitter account and the AP Mobile Twitter account was preceded by phishing attempts on AP's corporate

network.

The AP confirmed that its Twitter account had been suspended following a hack and said it was working to correct the issue. The fake tweet went out shortly after 1 p.m. and briefly sent the Dow Jones Industrial Average sharply lower. The Dow fell about 143 points, from 14,697 to 14,554, after the fake Twitter posting, and then quickly recovered.

A Securities and Exchange Commission spokeswoman declined

comment on the incident.

AP spokesman Paul Colford said the news cooperative is working with Twitter to investigate the issue. The AP has disabled its other Twitter accounts following the attack, Colford added.

White House spokesman Jay Carney said the President is fine. "I was just with him," Carney said at a news briefing.

A representative for Twitter did not immediately return messages for comment.

BUSINESS BRIEF

NEW YORK

ROSWELL, N.M.

Lawyer: Slaughterhouse cleared

About 5 miles from this southeastern New Mexico town's famed UFO museum, tucked between dairy farms, is a nondescript metal building that could

be home to any number of small agricultural businesses. But Valley Meat Co. is no longer just another agricultural business. It's a former cattle slaughterhouse whose kill floor has been re-designed for horses to be led in one at a time, secured in a huge metal chute, shot in the head, then processed into meat for shipment overseas. It's also ground zero for an emotional, national debate over a return

to domestic horse slaughter that has divided horse rescue and animal humane groups, ranchers, politicians and Indian tribes. And Tuesday, it moved one step closer to becoming the first plant in the country in more than six years to slaughter horses, with a successful inspection by the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

—The Associated Press

TRAPPLER

From Page A1

testimony, about a half-dozen witnesses have testified that Trappler told them she hoped Bennett would never be involved in their child's life. Bennett never met his daughter, according to testimony.

Former Steuben County Chief Deputy Noel Terwilliger testified Monday that Trappler told him she was willing to do "anything" to keep Bennett out of their daughter's life.

Defense attorney Susan BetzJitomir admits Trappler did not want Bennett to have anything to do with their child, but she says Trappler's contingency plan was to flee the state with the child, not have Bennett killed.

The prosecution says Trappler had her late ex-husband, 32-year-old Thomas Borden of Corning, kill Bennett. Bennett was killed by a shotgun blast to the head April 19, 2012, at his home on Pearl Street in the Town of Dix.

Borden was not brought to trial because he committed suicide four days after the killing. He jumped in front of a moving train as police attempted to apprehend him.

BetzJitomir says Borden was "probably" the killer, but District Attorney Joe Fazzary must still prove the facts of the crime.

On Tuesday, Fazzary introduced evidence that Borden purchased the same type of ammunition used to kill Bennett about four hours before the homicide at Wal-Mart in Erwin.

He also showed the jury photos of Borden purchasing a shovel from the same store about an hour after Bennett's death — the murder weapon was buried in Pinnacle State Park in Addison.

Other photos showed Borden and his stepbrother, 25-year-old Nathan Hand of Corning, inside a Dandy Mini Mart near the scene about an hour before the crime.

Borden's father, also Thomas Borden, positively identified Borden and Hand as the men in the photos.

Hand, who led police to the murder weapon, has already pleaded guilty to his role in Bennett's death. He told police he helped Borden commit the crime but was not the triggerman.

Hand will testify against Trappler in exchange for a 19-year prison sentence.

The trial will resume this morning in Schuyler County Court.

FIRE

From Page A1

between them."

The front of the building at 30 Main St. is a vacant store. The apartment is in the rear of the building, overlooking a back lot behind Main Street and facing the Canisteo River.

The fire scene shut down Main Street for several hours, causing traffic to be detoured.

Jordan said he was still gathering information and didn't know who lived in the apartment. The cause of the blaze was under investigation, he said.

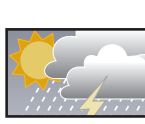
The Addison Fire Department was assisted at the scene by the Tuscarora, Woodhull and Forest View-Gang Mills volunteer departments, along with the Addison Police Department and New York State Police.

The Street


Stocks. News. Advice.

The Street business content, in print and online



FIVE-DAY FORECAST



Today
Showers, t-storms
High | 58
Low | 42

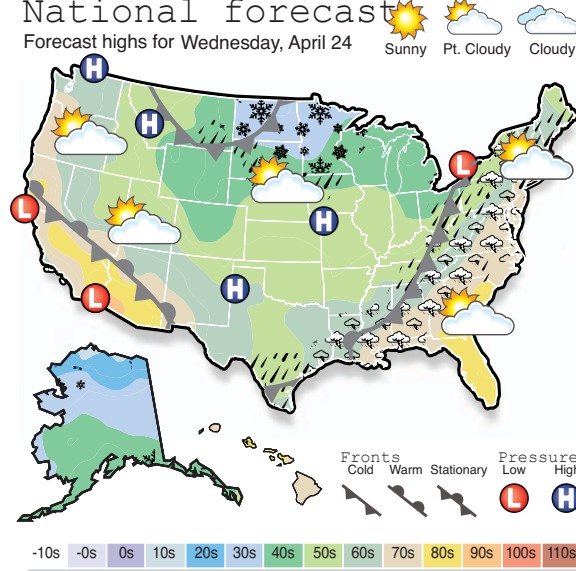


Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
M. cloudy and breezy	Intermittent clouds, sun	Mostly sunny	Partly sunny
High 57 Low 37	High 59 Low 32	High 64 Low 34	High 65 Low 39

National forecast


Forecast highs for Wednesday, April 24



Fronts: Cold, Warm, Stationary. Pressure: Low, High.

MOON PHASES

First Full Last New



May 18 Thursday May 2 May 10

SUNRISE | SUNSET

Sunrise today 6:13
Sunset today 8:00
Sunrise Thursday 6:12
Sunset Thursday 8:01



Authorities run tests on substances they removed from a house on the corner of Harmon and Hudson Streets in Elmira Tuesday afternoon. PHOTOS BY ERIC WENSEL/THE LEADER

METH LAB

From Page A1

changed a lot since her and her family moved into their home about 15 years ago.

"It's a different place," Boynton said. "Now, I won't even walk around at night in this neighborhood. It's dangerous. In the last five years it has really gone downhill a lot."



Authorities cordoned off a house on the corner of Harmon Street and Hudson Street in Elmira Tuesday.

ATTENTION:
BANKERS, BUILDERS, REAL ESTATE AGENCIES
wanted for Vendor Tables at our:

Back in Business Seminar

Friday, April 26th • 6-10pm
at the Radisson, Denison Parkway, Corning

Tickets Available: Info Center, 1 W. Market St. (962-8997) & Brown Cigar Store.

Guest Lecturers to speak on our local economy

The host will provide documented information on 80+ units in Lawrenceville; PA and 100+ acres adjoining CWE on Goff Rd. and 200+ acres off Latta Brook Road.

\$25.00 Admission - \$5 of each ticket will be donated to the Wounded Warriors Project.

Courtesy Tables for State, Corning Police, Painted Post Police & Steuben County Sheriff's Office.

HOSTED BY: BEN JOLLEY & ASSOCIATES.



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