

CRUZ MAY MISS SEASON OPENER

NFL, PAGE B1



WOMEN GYMNASTS GOLDEN AGAIN

OLYMPICS, PAGE B1

WED THU FRI
88/68 91/69 89/71

Complete forecast, A8

Elmira to celebrate Molly Huddle Day. SPORTS, PAGE B1



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LOCAL

Fire at vacant home deemed suspicious

A suspicious fire is under investigation in the Town of Chemung. Fire departments were called to the scene of a fire Monday night at a vacant home at 1171 Hoffman Hollow Road.

The house was destroyed. An investigation determined the cause of the fire is suspicious in nature. The Chemung, Baldwin and Wellsburg fire departments responded to the scene.

Anyone with information is asked to call the Chemung County Sheriff's Office Criminal Investigation Division at 737-2933.

Sheriff: Man cooked meth in his hotel room

A Montour Falls man is facing charges after allegedly cooking meth in his motel room, the Schuyler County Sheriff's Office said Tuesday.

Mark D. Melnick, 38, of 100 Clawson Blvd., Montour Falls, was charged with third-degree unlawful manufacture of methamphetamine, a Class D felony, for allegedly possessing the remnants of a meth cooking operation in his motel room.

He was sent to Steuben County Jail on \$5,000 cash bail. The New York State Police CCSERT team processed and cleaned up the materials.

Police: Elmira woman charged with welfare fraud

An Elmira woman was arrested Tuesday on a warrant for alleged welfare fraud, the Elmira police said.

Lisa Greeno, 36, was charged with fourth-degree welfare fraud, fourth-degree grand larceny, and first-degree offering a false instrument for filing, all Class E felonies.

She allegedly filed fraudulent paperwork with the Department of Social Services and received more \$2,325 to which she was not entitled.

STATE

Meth lab found under parking lot

AMHERST — Authorities say they've discovered what they believe is a methamphetamine lab under the parking lot of a Wal-Mart store in western New York. Police in the town of Amherst say officers on routine patrol found chemicals and other items used to make meth in an underground culvert that runs below the parking lot in suburban Buffalo.

Advice..... A6 Local..... A2
Business..... A5 N/World..... A4
Classifieds... B3 Obituaries... A5
Comics..... A7 State..... A3



FOOD FOR THOUGHT



State Sen. Tom O'Mara and Congressman Tom Reed talk with Elmira residents after handing out lunches with the Food Bank of the Southern Tier at Katy Leary Park Tuesday afternoon in Elmira. ERIC WENSEL/THE LEADER

Lawmakers mull childhood hunger

By Stephen Borgna
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ELMIRA — Rep. Tom Reed, R-Corning, Sen. Tom O'Mara, R-Big Flats, and several local leaders participated in the Child Hunger Task Force's summer food program at Katy Leary Park in Elmira Tuesday.

The group discussed ways to better address a problem that's widespread throughout the area and the country.

"First thing, you've got to recognize, (childhood hunger is) here," Reed said. "Even in the

21st century. So how do we combat it? How do we do move the needle differently to address it?"

"Child hunger is prevalent throughout our state and throughout our country unfortunately," O'Mara said. "It's one of the saddest issues we deal with."

The group also volunteered with serving and had the chance to see for themselves the efforts being taken around the community to combat the problem.

"The main reason for

SEE HUNGER, A8



State Sen. Tom O'Mara sits with a group of kids after lunch at Katy Leary Park in Elmira Tuesday afternoon. ERIC WENSEL/THE LEADER

CAMPAIGN 2016 TRUMP

Strained relationship with GOP a major issue

By Steve Peoples
The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Beyond the immediate fallout from his rocky relationship with party elders, there's a longer-term reality for Donald Trump: Should he win the presidency, he'll have to work closely with the same GOP leaders he's vilified on the campaign trail.

He has taken modest steps in recent days to ease tensions, yet a growing chorus of experienced Republicans is warning that the billionaire businessman's brash and divisive approach will make it difficult for him to

govern effectively.

"He hasn't been able to get along with his own party as the nominee. How is he going to get along with them when he has to govern?" asked Rick Tyler, a former aide to Ted Cruz's presidential bid. "If Trump can't get along with the sitting speaker, and has poor relationships with sitting members of the Legislature, the idea of fashioning a conservative legislative agenda seems to me virtually nonexistent."

Tyler may not be an impartial observer. But it seems clear that Trump's

SEE TRUMP, A8



Republican presidential candidate Donald Trump applauds during a campaign rally at the University of North Carolina-Wilmington Tuesday in Wilmington, N.C. EVAN VUCCI/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

PATRICK'S PUB

Search for shooting suspect continues

By Jeffery Smith
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ELMIRA — Patrolmen continue to search for Zecary L. Banks, the 27-year-old Elmira man named a suspect in the late July shooting at Patrick's Pub on College Avenue.



Banks

Four of the five shooting victims have been released from local hospitals, Elmira Police Sgt. William Solt said Tuesday. The remaining shooting victim remains hospitalized in guarded condition.

No further information on the victims and their conditions will be released at this time, and the suspect has not been taken into custody, Solt said.

Solt said the investigation into this shooting continues and asked anyone who may have additional information to call the Elmira Police Department at 737-5626.

SEE SUSPECT, A8

BUFFALO

Major drug ring busted

The Associated Press

BUFFALO — An international drug ring that used containers labeled "sea cucumbers" to send millions of dollars' worth of cocaine, heroin and fentanyl to western New York via California and Mexico has been busted, federal authorities announced Tuesday.

U.S. Attorney William Hochul said 17 people have been indicted on federal drug trafficking and money laundering charges as part of the investigation dubbed "Operation Lockjaw."

The ring linked to Mexico's Sinaloa drug cartel used front companies in California and the Buffalo area to smuggle narcotics on pallets of goods purporting to be sea cucumbers, used in Chinese cuisine, officials said. The Drug Enforcement Administration said the sting netted more than \$2.5 million worth of illegal drugs, which included the equivalent of 1.5 million hits of cocaine and 2.7 million hits of heroin.

The traffickers sent about \$20 million from Buffalo-area banks to California in a one-year period, authorities said.

SEE DRUG, A8

WORKIN' ON THE RAILROAD CROSSING



B&H Rail Corporation is replacing the railroad crossing on North Hamilton and West Chemung Street in Painted Post. The crossing is closed to traffic. Painted Post Department of Public Works Superintendent Larry Smith said the railroad informed him the crossing would be completed Thursday or Friday. STEPHEN BORGNA/THE LEADER



Natasha Thompson, Food Bank President and CEO, Joe Kilmer, Director of CPP Food Services, Elmira Mayor Dan Mandell, State Senator Tom O'Mara, Congressman Tom Reed and Jennifer Bertron, Child Nutrition Programs Navigator at the Food Bank talk after handing out lunches Tuesday at Katy Leary Park in Elmira. ERIC WENSEL/THE LEADER

HUNGER

From Page A1

this visit was really to bring Congressman Reed and Senator O'Mara and (Elmira Mayor Daniel Mandell) to a summer food site so they can see first hand all the great things that are happening in the community," Food Bank of the Southern Tier President Natasha Thompson said.

The food bank's summer food program is an annual initiative to feed children in need once the school year is over, when they no longer have access to school meals. Over 50 percent of children throughout the food

bank's six-county service area are eligible for free and reduced-price meals at school.

"We just want to convey the importance of this program," Thompson said. "The impact that this program has on the ground."

"It's important to keep this thing going year-after-year," Mandell said.

Reed and O'Mara said they enjoyed working with the kids and participating in the local community.

"It feels great to help the kids out," O'Mara said. "There's no better work in the world than helping kids."

"That's probably one of the best parts of the job," Reed said.

CAMPAIGN 2016

PUBLIC HEALTH

Clinton urges emergency action on Zika in Florida

By Josh Lederman and Catherine Lucey
The Associated Press

MIAMI — Urging Congress to cut short its summer recess, Hillary Clinton called for emergency public health action Tuesday as she visited a Miami neighborhood dealing with the first U.S. outbreak of the Zika virus.

At a local health clinic, the Democratic presidential nominee said Republican congressional leaders should summon lawmakers back to Washington and immediately pass funding for the Zika response.

Clinton said she was "very disappointed" that Congress left for recess without passing legislation.

She spoke after touring the Borinquen Medical Center, a health clinic close to the Wynwood area where 21 non-travel related cases of Zika have been diagnosed.

"Everybody has a stake in this. And that's really why I'm here," Clinton said. "We don't want to wake up in a year and read more stories about babies like the little girl who just died in Houston."

It's an issue that could affect votes in this crucial swing state where she has held a small advantage in recent polls.



Democratic presidential candidate Hillary Clinton speaks to medical professionals after taking a tour of Borinquen Health Care Center, on Tuesday in Miami, Fla., to see how they are combatting Zika. ANDREW HARNIK/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

"Everybody has a stake in this. And that's really why I'm here. ... We don't want to wake up in a year and read more stories about babies like the little girl who just died in Houston."

— Hillary Clinton

So far, Republican Donald Trump has not addressed the issue in depth, though he told a Florida television station last week that Gov. Rick Scott, a Republican, "really seems to have it under control in Florida."

Trump, meanwhile, campaigning in North Carolina, stirred a new controversy by saying that if Clinton is elected, "Second Amendment people" could do something to

prevent her from overturning the right to bear arms.

He contended, as he has in the past, that she would "essentially abolish" the Second Amendment.

He continued: "By the way, if she gets to pick her judges, nothing you can do, folks. Although the Second Amendment people, maybe there is, I don't know."

Clinton's campaign manager immediately denounced

Trump's remarks, suggesting he was inciting violence.

But Trump's communications director, Jason Miller, said he was merely praising the "amazing spirit" of strong supporters of the Second Amendment's gun rights guarantee.

In Miami and beyond, there is growing concern about a different issue: new cases of Zika.

Until this month, the only known cases in the United States were in people who had recently traveled to Latin America or the Caribbean. Federal officials last week warned pregnant women to avoid the Miami neighborhood and a square-mile area around it.

Lawmakers left Washington in mid-July for a seven-week recess without approving any of the \$1.9 billion that President Barack Obama requested in February to try to develop a vaccine and control the mosquitoes that carry the virus.

Obama, Clinton and Democrats blame Republicans for politicizing the legislation by adding a provision to a \$1.1 billion take-it-or-leave-it measure that would have blocked Planned Parenthood clinics in Puerto Rico from receiving money.

POLITICAL ADVERTISING

Trump on sidelines as Clinton fills Olympics TV airtime

By Julie Bykowicz and Chad Day
The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Hillary Clinton wants to get as close as possible to Michael Phelps and Simone Biles. So she's spending more than \$13 million on political ads at the Olympics — while Donald Trump is sitting on the sidelines.

The Democratic presidential nominee is taking advantage of the millions of Americans tuned in to watch the champion swimmer and gymnast, as well as other U.S. athletes, rack up medals

during the Summer Games in Rio. Republican Trump, meanwhile, hasn't aired a single general election ad yet — a decision that baffles some political strategists.

"I'd love to know what they're waiting for," said Will Ritter, a Republican ad maker and veteran of Mitt Romney's presidential bids. Trump's avoidance of political norms such as advertising "cannot survive the professionalized deconstruction that Hillary is doing every day," he said.

Clinton's multimillion-dollar investment meant that across the U.S. viewers,

captivated by coverage of top events like swimming and women's gymnastics, saw her commercials in prime time each of the past three nights, Kantar Media's political advertising tracker shows.

During the three weeks of Olympics coverage, her campaign is spending \$8 million on the national NBC network, \$1.1 million more on affiliated cable channels Bravo, USA and MSNBC and \$4.5 million on local affiliates in key presidential battleground states such as Florida, according to the tracker.

Sunday's Olympics ratings

for NBC averaged 29.8 million viewers — a very significant audience.

While Trump's campaign has requested advertising rates from stations in key states, including Florida, the Olympics are slipping beyond his reach.

One Clinton ad in heavy rotation is an awkward clip from his appearance on David Letterman's former late-night show. The host holds up Trump shirts and ties and points out that they were made in Bangladesh and China, not America. Trump smiles sheepishly.

FIVE-DAY FORECAST

Today
M. cloudy, shwrs/storms likely
High | 88
Low | 69

Thursday
M. cloudy, shwrs/storms likely
High | 91
Low | 69

Friday
M. cloudy, shwrs/storms likely
High | 89
Low | 71

Saturday
M. cloudy, shwrs/storms likely
High | 88
Low | 70

Sunday
M. cloudy, shwrs/storms likely
High | 83
Low | 71

MOON PHASES
First Full Last New
SEPT. 9 AUG. 18 AUG. 24 SEPT. 1

SUNRISE | SUNSET
Sunrise today 6:11
Sunset today 8:15
Sunrise Thursday 6:12
Sunset Thursday 8:14

TRUMP

From Page A1

turbulent relationships with Republican leaders could take on greater significance after Election Day.

A President Trump may need Cruz — or "Lyn' Ted" as Trump calls him — to help confirm his Supreme Court picks. He may need Florida Sen. Marco Rubio — or "Little Marco" — to help implement his immigration priorities. And President Trump's broader governing agenda will surely require the cooperation of House Speaker Paul Ryan, whom

Trump thrust into a political firestorm a week ago by refusing to endorse him.

Trump ended that feud by endorsing Ryan late Friday — along with Arizona Sen. John McCain and New Hampshire Sen. Kelly Ayotte — after four days of manufactured chaos, but the episode left bad blood.

A steady stream of defections has continued, with longtime Republican officials and policy experts vowing not to vote for the GOP nominee. They include Maine Sen. Susan Collins, a four-term Republican senator, who announced Monday she could not

support Trump and "his constant stream of cruel comments."

"Donald Trump does not reflect historical Republican values nor the inclusive approach to governing that is critical to healing the divisions in our country," Collins wrote in The Washington Post.

She is not alone. Several Republican senators, including Ben Sasse of Nebraska and Mark Kirk of Illinois, have said they won't vote for Trump. Others, such as Jeff Flake of Arizona and Mike Lee of Utah, have so far refused to endorse him.

Trump's team says it's not for lack of effort by the candidate.

One early backer, Rep. Chris Collins, R-N.Y., notes that Trump has made multiple trips to Capitol Hill to talk to his critics. He says there's only a handful of holdouts.

"Once Mr. Trump is the president of the United States and shows that willingness to reach out, and not be dictatorial, but rather collaborative, I think they may just disappear automatically," Collins said of the Republican critics. "I think it's going to be a very collaborative effort."

SUSPECT

From Page A1

On July 28, at about 12:47 a.m., the Elmira Police Department was dispatched to Patrick's Bar for a report of shots fired, police said. As a result

of the shooting, multiple victims were transported to local hospitals for treatment.

Solt said this is an active investigation on the Patrick's Pub incident that the Elmira Police Department believes stems from a dispute between parties

within the bar.

There was believed to be about 50 people at the bar at the time of the shooting.

Banks is a black male, 6'1 tall and weighs about 220 pounds, police said. He was last seen wearing a black shirt, light-colored shorts and a red baseball hat.

The Elmira Police Department was assisted by the Chemung County Sheriff's Department, New York State Police, Elmira Heights Police Department, West Elmira Police Department, Elmira Fire Department and Erway Ambulance.

DRUG

From Page A1

"... This organization represents the largest drug trafficking organization ever dismantled in this District, responsible for distributing tons of heroin, cocaine, fentanyl and marijuana on the

streets of Buffalo, Lockport and Niagara Falls," Hochul said. "The organization utilized front companies, deliverymen, and wholesalers to import and distribute the drugs in this area, and bookkeepers and money launderers to conceal the tens of millions of dollars sent from Buffalo back to

the suppliers.

Some intended user of these illegal drugs will potentially be alive tomorrow, thanks to the work done by law enforcement today."

The drug ring turned the city of Buffalo into "ground zero" for fentanyl and heroin trafficking in New York, said

James Hunt, DEA special agent in charge.

Prosecutors said the ring created fictitious food companies, including one in suburban Cheektowaga, to ship the drugs cross-country while hidden in containers sealed with foam or spray insulation to throw off law enforcement scrutiny.