

BEWARE THE IDES OF MARCH, but why? William Shakespeare's play, "Julius Caesar" branded the phrase and date, March 15 with a gloomy and dismal connotation.

In today's commercial world when heroes in movies, books and television are faced with the Ides of March, it is almost certainly a bad omen. For example, in 2011 Columbia Pictures released the movie, *The Ides of March*, featuring Ryan Gosling and George Clooney which involved a pretty clear allegory for Caesar's death and a monumental amount of backstabbing.

Outside theatre however, historically the Ides of March is completely non-threatening being that Kalends, Nones and Ides were simply ancient markers utilized to reference dates in relation to phases of the moon. Ides unambiguously refers to the first new moon of a given month, which usually falls between the 13th and 15th.

At one point in history, the Ides of March signified the new year, which meant celebrations and rejoicing until Julius Caesar uprooted Rome's New Year celebrations from their traditional date of March 15 to January. This happened just two years before Caesar was betrayed by members of his Roman Senate and butchered on March 15, 44 BC.

So, did the death of Julius Caesar curse this day in history or was it simply Shakespeare's mastery of the written word which darkened this day for history? Looking through history, undoubtedly one would be able to find other horrible things which took place on March 15, but is that not true for any date throughout history? Just as there are sure to be wonderful events which also fell on this date in the past.

UPMC launches first Tele-ED in Pa. at UPMC Kane



KANE — UPMC is leveraging its clinical expertise and innovative technology to launch the first tele-Emergency Department (Tele-ED) in Pennsylvania at UPMC Kane in McKean County.

In line with the Pennsylvania Department of Health guidelines announced on March 2 to increase patient access to care through innovative delivery models, UPMC created a first-of-its kind in Pennsylvania rural health care approach that will allow access to excellent emergency medical care at UPMC Kane.

"UPMC is committed to advancing access to quality health care for all our patients, wherever they live and work," said Donald M. Yealy, M.D., UPMC chief medical officer and chair of the Department of Emergency Medicine at UPMC and the University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine. "This new model of care will meet the needs of the community, today and into the future, while using all available

UPMC Kane is the first tele-emergency department in the state of Pennsylvania.

Photo provided

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Barletta stumps in Bradford

By **MARCIE SCHELLHAMMER**
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A friendly man with a bright smile, Lou Barletta greeted staff at The Era with a handshake and a greeting of "Hi, I'm Lou."

The current frontrunner in the Republican race for Pennsylvania governor, Barletta was in Bradford Monday to take a look at the City of Bradford, to hear what problems the area is facing and to see what he might be able to do in Harrisburg to make things better in McKean County.

First, he explained that Gov. Tom Wolf and his — in Barletta's opinion — mishandling of the COVID pandemic was the impetus behind his run.

"I thought I was finished with public service, 11 years as mayor of Hazleton and eight years in Congress," Barletta said. He had waged an unsuccessful campaign against Sen. Bob Casey in 2018. "After I ran for the Senate in 2018, I finally had a chance to enjoy my 10 grandchildren and four daughters."

"And then the pandemic happened." Wolf's decisions for Pennsylvania were not acceptable, the candidate said.

"I watched what I thought was Governor Wolf mismanaging the pandemic, picking and choosing winners and losers of what businesses had to close," Barletta said. "As a former business owner, I know how

hard we worked at our business and our employees were like part of our family."

The closures "destroyed people's lives," Barletta said. "It made no sense to me why you could go to Walmart but you couldn't go to a local business who he chose to shut down. I found that offensive."

"I don't think any man or woman should have that much power, that they can take your livelihood away from you," Barletta said. Many of the businesses never reopened, and the impact was enormous.

Speaking of impacts, the gubernatorial candidate said he's concerned about the effect of school

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Era photo by DANIELLA GRIESBAUM
Lou Barletta, who is seeking the Republican nomination to run for Pennsylvania governor, spoke in Bradford on Monday.

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Era photo by Daniella Griesbaum

Two gentlemen decided to take advantage of the sunny skies and temperatures in the 40s on Thursday afternoon and cast a line or two into the Tunungwant Creek in Bradford.

BT supervisors talk road projects, bridge walkways

By **DANIELLA GRIESBAUM**
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The road projects for 2022 and bridge walkways were the main topics of discussion during the regular monthly meeting of the Bradford Township supervisors on Monday evening.

A discussion was held during the meeting about road projects in Bradford Township for the year and a motion was unanimously approved to accomplish the following items: possible repairs to the bridge on Boss Avenue; repairs to the southbound lane base of High Street as well as binding repairs, milling and paving; repairs to both lanes of base on Hedgehog Lane including the binding

repairs, milling and paving; and repairs to both lanes of binding on Joseph Lane plus milling and paving.

During the meeting, a motion to request the purchase of rubber/recycled plastic matting for a walkway on the Browntown bridge was not only approved, it was expanded by another motion to include Fuller Road bridge as well as the bridge of Lang Maid Lane, if needed.

Two quotes pertaining to the purchase of a new garbage truck were opened. However, the motion to review the quotes and possible motion to purchase the truck were tabled,

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UPMC

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resources across our deep and talented workforce.”

UPMC Kane is partnering with UPMC Hamot in Erie to create an emergency medicine collaboration using advanced telemedicine technology. Board-certified emergency medicine physicians located at UPMC Hamot, 94 miles away in Erie, partner with on-site, trained advanced practice providers (APPs) at UPMC Kane, 24 hours a day, seven days a week, to

provide the best care for all who seek it.

“Bedside care is delivered by physician assistants (PAs) and certified registered nurse practitioners (CRNPs) at UPMC Kane using advanced video, audio and examination technology to connect patients seamlessly and quickly with board-certified emergency medicine physicians at UPMC Hamot,” said Mark Papalia, UPMC Kane president. “Together, the APP and physician diagnose and care for the patient.”

UPMC Kane is an acute care hospital located in a remote, rural community with an average daily inpatient census of five to six hospitalized patients and approximately 6,000 total emergency department visits each year. UPMC Hamot is the advanced tertiary care regional hub for UPMC in northwest Pennsylvania and southwest New York caring for nearly 70,000 patients in the emergency department annually. UPMC Hamot provides high-level specialized care and is a Level II trauma center, the only accredited trauma center in the Erie region.

“Accessibility and long-term sustainability are the driving forces behind UPMC Kane’s innovative model,” said Yealy. “In rural communities across the country, the ratio of physicians to patients is approximately half that of suburban and urban areas. More than 100 rural hospitals closed across the country over

the past decade in part because of recruitment challenges. Much of rural America is medically underserved creating the necessity for new models of care to improve access to and quality of health care.”

This innovation for rural health care delivery results from careful planning and training within the UPMC Kane transformation plan to improve rural health care and enhance access, as part of its enrollment in the Pennsylvania Rural Health Model. As a participating hospital of the initiative, the Pennsylvania Department of Health and Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) permitted UPMC Kane to pursue Tele-ED program development and launch in Pennsylvania in advance of the Commonwealth’s March 2 rural health guidelines announcement.

“UPMC Kane has been successfully operating a similar inpatient tele-hospitalist program since May of 2021,” said Papalia. “The program is in partnership with the UPMC Center for Community Hospitalist Medicine. Through this technology innovation, inpatients receive virtual rounds and on-demand consultation access with UPMC’s vast network of physicians and advanced clinical resources.”

Alike to a Tele-ED, the tele-hospitalist program enhances and improves rural health care through a sustainable, vibrant and transformational new model of care.

“UPMC remains committed to creating the highest levels of access and quality care for patients in every community we serve,” added Yealy. “This new model of Tele-ED care represents looking ahead by designing sustainable models of health care delivery for the future that also serve our patients’ needs today. We are here to care for our communities and provide even greater access to the excellent care and expertise of UPMC.”

US says China talks on Russia were a ‘substantial discussion’

By JOHN FOLLAIN, JENNY LEONARD and JENNIFER JACOBS
BLOOMBERG NEWS

WASHINGTON (TNS) — U.S. and Chinese officials conducted a “substantial discussion” of the Russian war against Ukraine in their first high-level, in-person talks since the invasion, but the White House announced no specific outcomes or agreements.

U.S. national security adviser Jake Sullivan “raised a range of issues in U.S.-China relations” including the war in a roughly six-hour meeting in Rome with China’s top diplomat, Communist Party Politburo member Yang Jiechi, the White House said in a statement afterward.

“They also underscored the importance of maintaining open lines of communication between the United States and China,” the statement added.

State Department spokesman Ned Price told reporters Monday that U.S. officials raised concerns with their Chinese counterparts during the meeting. The two sides also discussed North Korea and Taiwan, a senior administration official told reporters in a briefing on condition of anonymity.

Ahead of the meeting, U.S. officials said Russia had asked China for military assistance shortly after touching off the war — a sign that President Joe Biden’s administration is increasingly concerned about the role Russia’s most powerful diplomatic partner could play in the conflict. The official declined to comment on Russia’s alleged request for Chinese aid and described the meeting as intense.

Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesman Zhao Lijian on Monday rejected the reports of the Russian request as “disinformation” and “malicious.” Kremlin spokesman Dmitry Peskov said Monday that Russia has all the resources it needs to complete its mission as planned.

The Biden administration has sought to persuade Beijing to use its influence in Moscow to help end a conflict that has now entered its third week. The president’s top advisers have pressured China to enforce sanctions on Russia’s economy imposed by the U.S. and its European and Asian allies.

The senior administration official acknowledged that the administration has deep concerns about Russia’s alignment with China.

Just weeks before the invasion, Putin and Chinese President Xi Jinping declared in a lengthy joint statement that the two nations’ friendship had “no limits.”

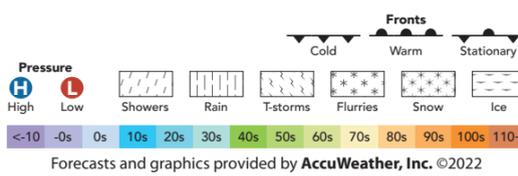
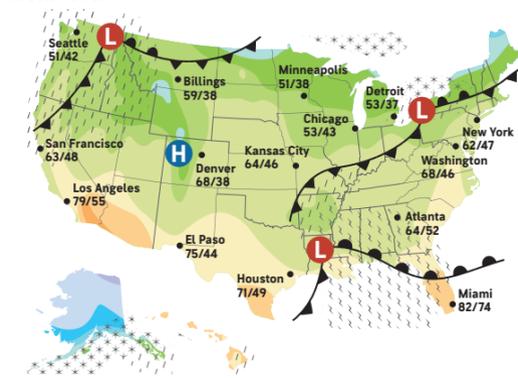
The talks between Sullivan and Yang began in the late morning at the luxury Rome Cavalieri hotel, according to people familiar with the meeting. They asked not to be identified discussing a confidential issue. The hotel, which overlooks the city, was closed off to the media.

WEATHER

Forecast for Tuesday, March 15, 2022

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Shown are noon positions of weather systems and precipitation. Temperature bands are highs for the day. Forecast high/low temperatures are for selected cities.



Forecasts and graphics provided by AccuWeather, Inc. ©2022

LOCAL FORECAST

Today

There is a chance of showers after 2 p.m. today with otherwise partly sunny skies and a high near 54 degrees. Tonight there is a chance of showers before 2 a.m. with a low around 35 degrees.

Extended Forecast

Wednesday will be mostly sunny with a high near 59 degrees. Wednesday night will be partly cloudy with a low around 39 degrees. Thursday will be mostly sunny with a high near 64 degrees. Thursday night will be mostly cloudy with a low around 41 degrees. Friday there is a chance of showers after 2 p.m. with otherwise mostly cloudy skies and a high near 60 degrees.

BRADFORD READINGS

Monday, March 14, 2022

Midnight	30	9 a.m.	33	6 p.m.	49
1 a.m.	31	10 a.m.	37	7 p.m.	47
2 a.m.	31	11 a.m.	41	8 p.m.	46
3 a.m.	29	Noon	44	9 p.m.	44
4 a.m.	28	1 p.m.	47	10 p.m.	43
5 a.m.	26	2 p.m.	50	11 p.m.	43
6 a.m.	25	3 p.m.	49	Last year	
7 a.m.	19	4 p.m.	49	High	41
8 a.m.	30	5 p.m.	50	Low	19

Smethport concert slated for tonight



Photo by Lois Housler

The Smethport Area Junior Senior High School Music Department will be performing in a Pops Concert at 7 p.m. tonight. The concert will feature Junior Choir, Senior Choir, Show Choir, Junior Band, Senior Band and Jazz band. Pictured here from left, back, Adri Claycomb, Ashley Day, Charity Lapp, Nicholas Learn, Hope Peterson, Vincent Elderkin; and front, Isabella Learn, Julianna Cole and Caitlyn Munsell.

BARLETTA

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closures during the pandemic.

“He stole a year’s education away from our children when the science didn’t back it,” he said of Wolf. “We still don’t know the long term effects that will have on our children. The loss of learning of one year is critical.”

And the decision to put COVID-positive seniors back into nursing homes made no sense, either, he said.

“I began screaming at the TV every night and my wife said ‘either turn the TV off or get off your butt and do something,’” Barletta said. “And I realized if not me, then who?”

He has experience as an executive in the private sector, has served in Congress, and has statewide name recognition.

“I have a history and a record that people can look at,” Barletta said. And he knows small-town Pennsylvania.

“That’s why I’m doing this Main Street tour today. I’ve done this in my eight years in Congress,” he said. “Being a former mayor, nobody paid attention to my town when I was mayor and I made a promise that I would help other communities who may not get attention.”

He started visiting communities, touring the town’s main street and meeting with elected officials and community leaders. “I would listen to what’s going on in that community. I’d get a good feel and sense of what their projects are and what they’re trying to do and what they’ve done.”

He’d stop and talk to business owners, too.

“When I left that small community, I knew everything that was going on. They knew a lot about me. And I developed a relationship. And that’s exactly what I’d want to do as governor,” Barletta said.

“I tell people I don’t want to be the governor of Pennsylvania, I want to be the mayor of Pennsylvania and treat each community — like Bradford — special because I understand, because that was me at one time.”

Barletta shared that another area where he disagrees with Wolf is on energy production.

“They are killing our gas industry, the administration in Washington and Governor Wolf, putting Pennsylvania into RGGI — the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative,” he said. “I think it’s ludicrous, think-

ing of the amount of energy we have in Pennsylvania. Energy is our future.”

On his first day as governor, he would withdraw from RGGI, he said. “And I will unleash the energy that we have here in Pennsylvania because we can supply the world.”

Barletta shared that he feels the Department of Environmental Protection is being used as a weapon to obstruct energy production.

“Right now they use DEP as a weapon to stop projects,” Barletta said. “DEP today stands for ‘Don’t Expect Permits.’ And we’re going to change that. We’re going to build pipelines and get our energy to the market.”

He added, “We have to do it responsibly. In America we do it better than anyone else. When we push our energy jobs from America to Russia and other countries, they do more pollution to our climate than we ever do. I think the responsible thing to do for our climate is to do it here in America where we have regulations to protect us, unlike many of the other countries.”

Reforming DEP needs to be done, he added.

“One of the things I’m going to do is put deadlines on issuing a permit so they cannot sit forever. And also allow third-party reviews when DEP misses a deadline,” Barletta said. “I think that’s going to make a world of difference.”

He mentioned other areas of concern, including rural access to healthcare and broadband. He learned about the situation with Bradford Regional Medical Center where he was in town Monday, and added, “that’s why it’s important for me to be here today. That’s why I want to continue to do these when I’m governor and continue to listen to local issues, especially in rural areas where we get so little attention from elected officials.”

Barletta continued, “I’m hearing the problem of access to healthcare here is a serious problem.”

He’s already working on ways to address problems, putting together advisory boards with “thought leaders from around Pennsylvania and putting them together on different issues and helping to develop answers to these questions and policies.”

He added, “This is not only a problem here in Bradford. This is something that needs attention in how we best get access to communities in Pennsylvania.”

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unanimously. The quotes will be reviewed and discussed further during a special meeting of the supervisors scheduled for 4:30 p.m. on Thursday.

Concerning old business, Supervisor Mark Cline made a point of mentioning that the amount in delinquent Garbage/ Sewer accounts had seen a large change since last month, dropping from \$214,297 owed down to \$194,648.

A motion was passed, unanimously, to approve the submission of an application for a Statewide Local Share Assessment Grant Program in the amount of \$250,000. The funds would be utilized to purchase a new 2022 Police vehicle and a new Wheel Loader for the Roads/ Sewer Departments.

According to Supervisor Laree Sue Behan, who read the Police Department Report on Monday evening, Bradford Township Police Department responded to 149 calls in the month of February and investigated four motor vehicle accidents.

A motion was approved to pay, in full, the invoice for the sewer fund in the amount of \$1,386,440.62. It

was noted by Cline that by paying this invoice in full, it would save the Township \$89,000.

Bradford Township residents should note that the township office, road department and garbage department will be closed on Friday, April 15 in observance of the Good Friday holiday.

The next regular monthly meeting of the supervisors will be held at 7 p.m. on April 11.

Lotteries

Midday	Pa. Cash Five: 3-4-11-15-28
Pa. Pick 2 (03/14): 5-4	Midday:
Pa. Pick 3: 2-8-9	N.Y. Numbers (03/14):
Pa. Pick 4: 2-4-8-2	1-3-9
Pa. Pick 5: 4-9-0-1-7	N.Y. Win Four: 3-5-0-5
Pa. Treasure Hunt: 7-9-23-26-27	Evening:
Evening:	N.Y. Numbers (03/13):
Pa. Pick 2 (03/14): 7-1	6-0-8
Pa. Pick 3: 5-8-5	N.Y. Win Four: 3-6-5-5
Pa. Pick 4: 8-9-0-5	N.Y. Pick 10 (03/14):
Pa. Pick 5: 2-9-2-9-3	2-3-4-7-8-11-18-20-23-
Pa. Match 6: 7-18-24-25-29-42	25-32-38-41-42-56-58-65-68-73-78