

Millville students get nature lessons



Millville student **Sam Faus**, center, pours seven eels into an eddy in Fishing Creek at Kocher Park. Students from the agricultural sciences program cared for the fish all semester. Tuesday's release was part of a program from Susquehanna River Basin Commission to reestablish eels in the upper part of the Susquehanna River and feeding streams.



Millville Ag teacher **Nichole Guise**, at right above, talks about water filters with **Rachel Troup** on Tuesday.

Troup, at left in photo at right, heads to an area on Fishing Creek at Kocher Park with classmates and others.



Lexie Wary, at left above, watches as **Sam Faus** holds a water filter they created. **Johanna Hripto** dumps a collection of pollutants into the filter at Kocher Park. The Millville students put together items like soap, dirt and dye. Millville Agricultural Sciences Program students are shown from left in photo above right. **Rachel Troup**, **Rowan Weaver**, **Lexie Wary** and **Sam Faus** watch as **Johanna Hripto** with the Susquehanna River Basin Commission adds water to pollutants. The students also took part in a scavenger hunt and a talk about careers with the Department of Conservation and Natural Resources. **PHOTOS BY JIMMY MAY**



Parents can use online guidance

By **BARBARA ORTUTAY**
AP Technology Writer

With ever-changing social-media algorithms pushing content at children, parents are seeing their kids' mental health suffer, even as platforms like TikTok and Instagram provide connections with friends.

A bipartisan group of senators introduced legislation aiming to prohibit all children under 13 from using social media. It would also require permission from a guardian for users under 18 to create an account.

On Wednesday, the Federal Trade Commission said Facebook misled parents and failed to protect the privacy of children using its Messenger Kids app, including misrepresenting the access it provided app developers to private user data. The FTC is proposing sweeping changes to a privacy order it has with Facebook's parent company Meta. It would include prohibiting it from making money from data it collects on children.

Here are some tips on staying safe, communicating and setting limits on social media.

Minors' privacy

There's a rule prohibiting kids under 13 from using platforms that advertise to them without parental consent: The Children's Online Privacy Protection Act. It went into effect in 2000.

The goal was to protect kids' online privacy by requiring websites and online services to disclose clear privacy policies and get parents' consent before gathering personal information on their kids, among other things. Social media companies have generally banned kids under 13 from signing up for their services. Still, it's been widely documented kids sign up anyway, either with or without their parents' permission.

But online privacy is no longer the only concern when it comes to kids being online. There's bullying, harassment, the risk of developing eating disorders, suicidal thoughts or worse.

For years, there has been a push among parents, educators and tech experts to wait to give children phones — and access to social media — until they are older, such as the "Wait Until 8th" pledge. It has parents sign a pledge not to give their kids a smartphone until eighth grade, or about age 13 or 14. But neither social media companies nor the government have done anything concrete to increase the age limit.

Older than 13

"There is not necessarily a

magical age," said Christine Elgersma, a social media expert at the nonprofit Common Sense Media. But, she added, "13 is probably not the best age for kids to get on social media."

The laws being proposed include blanket bans on the under-13 set when it comes to social media. But there's no easy way to verify a person's age when they sign up for apps and online services. And the apps popular with teens today were created for adults first. Companies added some safeguards over the years, Elgersma noted, but these are piecemeal changes, not fundamental rethinks of the services.

"Developers need to start building apps with kids in mind," she asserted.

Some tech executives and parents have resorted to banning their kids from social media altogether. Some experts say this could lead to isolating kids. They could be left out of activities and discussions with friends that take place on social media or chat services.

Another hurdle — kids who have never been on social media may find themselves ill-equipped to navigate the platforms when they are suddenly allowed free rein the day they turn 18.

Start talking

Elgersma suggests parents go through their own social media feeds with their children before they are old enough to be online and have open discussions on what they see. How would your child handle a situation where a friend of a friend asks them to send a photo? Or if they see an article that makes them so angry they just want to share it right away?

For older kids, approach them with curiosity.

Don't say things like "Turn that thing off!" when your kid has been scrolling, warns Jean Rogers, the director of the nonprofit Fairplay's Screen Time Action Network.

Instead, Rogers suggests asking questions about what they do on their phone, and see what your child is willing to share.

Watch a documentary like "The Social Dilemma" that explores algorithms, dark patterns and dopamine feedback cycles of social media. Or read up with them how Facebook and TikTok make money.

Setting limits

Rogers says most parents have success with taking their kids' phones overnight. It's a strategy that tends to work because kids need a break from the screen.

'Small Light' focuses on hidden heroes

By **MARK KENNEDY**
AP Entertainment Writer

NEW YORK — Liev Schreiber was visiting conflict-ravaged Ukraine when he got a script about real-life events some 80 years ago that felt strangely timely.

It was set during the 1942 occupation of the Netherlands by the Nazis and the way some Dutch risked their lives to save Jews from the Holocaust.

Celebrated diarist Anne Frank is in it, but almost peripheral. Instead, National Geographic's "A Small Light" focuses on a young, newly married woman who helped hide Frank and provided food and other necessities at great risk.

Doing the right thing

"A Small Light" stars Bel Powley as Miep Gies. She was a real-life heroine for protecting eight people in a secret annex in Amsterdam where Frank would write her famous diary. Schreiber plays Anne's father, Otto Frank.

The series is also an examination of how far strangers can go to help someone in trouble. Gies, who wasn't Jewish, faced certain death if discovered.

"It needs to make people feel 'What would I do and what should I do?' Because the situation right now isn't that different," said Powley.

Viewers first meet Gies as an aimless party girl transformed into a resistance fighter after the Nazis invade. She bluffs her way past army checkpoints and gathers scarce food for the hidden. She tells one of the people she saves: "If you need to cry, cry now."

Gies was the secretary of Otto Frank, and her fierce altruistic side put her marriage in jeopardy. In one argument scene, she tells her husband: "It's the right thing to do and I've agreed to do it, and I didn't think I had to consult you before deciding to save a person's life."

'Best in us'

Schreiber said Gies' bravery was un-



Associated Press/Dusan Martincek

OTTO FRANK (Liev Schreiber) talks with **Miep Gies** (Bel Powley) in "A Small Light." The series is streaming on Disney+ and on Hulu the next day.

derlined by the fact she had no blood connection to the people she was helping.

"I felt like there's something about Miep that really represents the best in each of us, those of us that say yes to each other. I felt like it was a great time to tell that story," Schreiber remarked.

Humanity

After the Nazi invasion of the Netherlands in July 1942, the Frank family went into hiding. The Van Pels family followed a week later. Four months later, they were joined by Fritz Pfeffer, a dentist and acquaintance of the Frank family. The group was discovered in 1944 and sent to the Auschwitz concentration and extermination camp.

"A Small Light" shows the humanity of each member of the group, from Anne's rebelliousness to the needling of family members and the discomforts of

life in hiding. There are fights and whining and stubbornness.

"Not many of us are familiar with rockets hitting our homes," said Schreiber. "But we can relate to a relationship that's not going well. We can relate to Richard Raymond Einsig Jr., same, son of Patricia Ann Walter and the late Richard Raymond Einsig.

Samual Dale Schleg, 339 Walnut St., Danville, son of David Schleg and Elizabeth Schleg; to Julieauna Marie-Faith Shinall, same, daughter of Samuel and Alice Shinall.

Schreiber sees the numbers with alarm, having just completed a series about the Holocaust. "The patterns are the same — misinformation, disinformation, scapegoats," he said. "Unfortunately, we are seeing them in the U.S. again."

MONTOUR COUNTY MARRIAGES

DANVILLE — The following marriage licenses have been granted in Montour County:

- Kalie Marie Davis, Pittsburgh, daughter of Michael and Marianne Davis; to Kalila Johanna Beehler, 154 Bloom St., Danville, daughter of Gary and Yakima Beehler.

- Logan Scott Beagle, 95 Chestnut Grove Road, Danville, son of Scott and Joan Beagle; to Kathryn Lorraine Reedy, same, daughter of Dennis and Stacey Reedy.

- Zachary Tylar Welliver, 157 Creekside Circle, Danville, son of Dennis Percel Jr. and Toni Welliver; to Gabrielle Lea Shoup, 315 W. Main St., Bloomsburg, daughter of Robert and Stephanie Shoup.

- Diane Marie Felix, 44 Quarry Road, Limestone Township, daughter of Evelyn Irene Bennage and the late Ralph Ernest Bennage; to Richard Raymond Einsig Jr., same, son of Patricia Ann Walter and the late Richard Raymond Einsig.

- Samuel Dale Schleg, 339 Walnut St., Danville, son of David Schleg and Elizabeth Schleg; to Julieauna Marie-Faith Shinall, same, daughter of Samuel and Alice Shinall.

- Marilyn Renee Enterline, 3 Preserve Road, Sunbury, daughter of Sylvia Jean Knorr and Emmett Eugene Jones; to Terry Bruce Pickett, same, son of Clara Jean Kappel and Alfred Thomas Pickett.

- Jacob John Gries, 21 Lexi Drive, Danville, son of Jef-

frey and Kari Gries; to Emely Paola Pimentel, same, daughter of Rafael Pimentel and Dilcia Rodriguez.

- Alex Michael Laubach, 737 Baldtop Road, Danville, son of Gary Allen and Lori Trixann Laubach; to Samantha Jo Riley, same, daughter of Timothy Leroy Riley and Cheri Lea Klien.

- Michael Anthony Sharp, 681 E. Front St., Danville, son of Danielle Lynn Jenkins and Benjamin Eugene Sharp; to Rebekka Jo Heller, same, daughter of Denise Jolene Heller and James Milton Foust.

- Denver William Beachel, 368 Fairview Road, Danville, son of Denis and Melissa Beachel; to Melanie Rose Brown, Watsonstown, daughter of Steve and Annette Brown.

- Theresa K. Mincemoyer, Lewisburg, daughter of the late Thomas J. Castle and Theresa Brown; to Mark K. Messner, P.O. Box 232, Millville, son of Ernest Messner and Elizabeth Hepler.

- Jason Grover Mannino, 38 Springhouse Lane, P.O. Box 24, Cooper Township, son of the late Cosmo E. Mannino and Barbara L. Mannino; to Traci Renee Messinger, same, daughter of the late William Bruce Stump and Alice Ann Rump.

- Bryon James Carey, 661 Ninth St., Danville, son of the late James Joseph Carey and the late Bonnie Jean Bird; to Amanda Joy Young, same, daughter of the late Lloyd Vincent Hummer Jr. and Margaret Helen Tavernite.