

HARRISBURG
ONLINE

HARRISBURG'S FAVORITE NEWS SOURCE SINCE 1993

Presented by *Greenlee Partners*

January 31, 2025

SHADOW OR NO SHADOW

It's the time of year when our furry four-legged weather prognosticator, known as Phil, makes his appearance. Groundhog Day occurs annually on February 2 and scientifically determines whether there will be six more weeks of winter or if spring will come early. This year marks the 139th celebration. *Will Punxsutawney Phil see his shadow?*

THANKS COVID

According to the National Assessment of Educational Progresses report card, Pennsylvania students have yet to reach pre-pandemic levels for test scores. The report card tracks test scores for fourth and eighth-grade students' math and reading scores, which in Pennsylvania, was relatively stagnant since the last report card two years ago, with Grade 4 reading showing a slight decline. On Pennsylvania's report, **Ashley Mullins**, Vice President of Advocacy for ExcelinEd, stated, "If you look at the investments that we've been making year over year in Pennsylvania, we always are increasing our state funding to our schools," Mullins said. "But we have not also coupled that with the policies that we know actually make a difference for kids." *Mo Money Mo Problems.*

GONE FISHING

The PA Fish and Boat Commission announced the much anticipated 2025 trout stocking schedule. For amateurs and experts alike, trout season begins Saturday, April 5, with the mentored youth program starting one week earlier on March 29. Trout stocking will begin on February 17, and the commission intends to stock 3.2 million fish, with the vast majority being Rainbow Trout.

ZUCKERBUCKS

Meta will pay \$25 million to settle a lawsuit filed by President **Donald Trump** after his accounts were suspended after January 6, 2021, according to people familiar with the case. The deal marks another major corporation resolving litigation with Trump. Reports noted that \$22 million will go to the nonprofit that will become Trump's presidential library, with the remaining funds covering legal fees and other plaintiffs.

Congratulations to **Hatti Specter**, granddaughter of the late Pennsylvania U.S. Senator **Arlen Specter**, who started a new role as a legislative aid to Congresswoman **Sarah McBride** of Delaware. Previously, Specter worked as a campaign assistant for McBride's U.S. House campaign and as a political associate for Justice **Dan McCaffery's** Pennsylvania Supreme Court campaign. Specter, like her grandfather, is an avid squash player and was on Drexel University's women's team while she attended college.



Happy Birthday

Today:

- Former Governor **Mark S. Schweiker**
- Former State Representative **Phyllis Mundy**
- **Matt Azeles** Legislative Director, Office of Senator Gebhard
- **MeeCee Baker**, President & CEO, Versant Strategies
- **Domenick M. Argento***, Director of State Government Affairs & Policy, Merck
- **Matt Maisel**, Executive Editorial Specialist, Penn State Health

Saturday:

- Former State Representative **Jason Silvis**
- **Jill Vecchio**, Deputy Chief Counsel Republican Caucus, PA House of Representatives
- **Eric Hagarty**, Chief Clerk, Dauphin County (as of 2/3)

Sunday:

- **Bryan Barbin**, Deputy Secretary for Taxation, PA Dept. of Revenue
- **Kendra Lightner**
- **Gale House**

Committee Meetings

- (H) Republican Policy – 10AM - Public Hearing on "Stopping New Energy Taxes"



GREENLEE PARTNERS

Harrisburg, PA 17101
717-236-0443

CONTACT US

Greenlee Partners, LLC | 230 State Street | Harrisburg, PA 17101 US

[Unsubscribe](#) | [Update Profile](#) | [Constant Contact Data Notice](#)



Try email marketing for free today!