HARRISBURG

ONLINE

HARRISBURG'S FAVORITE NEWS SOURCE SINCE 1993

Presented by Greenlee Partners

March 18, 2025



The State House will convene at 11 AM

FRAUD FIGHTS

Pennsylvania led the nation in Medicaid fraud charges in 2024, with 113 individuals charged for fraud and six for neglect, abuse, or endangerment. The state ranked third overall for convictions, according to Attorney General *Dave Sunday*. The Medicaid Fraud Control Section recovered over \$11.3 million in misused funds, primarily through criminal prosecutions. A federal report found that Medicaid fraud units nationwide recover \$3.46 for every \$1 spent on enforcement.

WHIRLWIND OF WEATHER

Resulting from this weekend's severe weather, the western part of the Commonwealth witnessed four tornadoes. Three of the four tornadoes occurred in Westmoreland County with the other touching down in Indiana County. All four were classified as EF-1 twisters that result in winds ranging from 86-110 mph. There were no reported injuries or deaths in Pennsylvania, however this weekend's severe weather included at least 40 fatalities from seven other states within the Midwest.

JURISDICTION OR NO JURISDICTION, THAT IS THE QUESTION

The Department of Justice has requested a federal appeals court to replace Judge **James Boasberg** in a case challenging the Trump Administration's deportation of alleged

Venezuelan gang members under the Alien Enemies Act. Boasberg had issued an order to halt these deportations, but the Administration proceeded, arguing his oral directive was not binding. During a hearing, Boasberg criticized the Administration's stance, suggesting it acted beyond judicial authority. The DOJ contends that Boasberg's actions represent an inappropriate exercise of jurisdiction and seeks his removal from the case.

FISH ON THE MOVE

A new restaurant will be opening in the Harrisburg area soon that will offer conveyor belt sushi. Diners will be able sit and relax while sushi travels by their table, and they can grab whatever they want. It is all you can eat but to encourage less waste, a \$1 charge per piece of uneaten sushi will be implemented. For those who do not want unlimited sushi, they can order off a menu and robots will deliver it to the table.

We at Harrisburg: ONLINE send our condolences to the friends and family o**John V. Thomas**, a longtime Hampden Township commissioner, who passed away last week at the age of 78. With more than three decades of public service, he oversaw finance, sewer, and solid waste matters. A Bishop McDevitt alumnus, he earned an economics degree from Villanova and worked as a financial advisor before leading multiple municipal organizations, including the Pennsylvania State Association of Township Commissioners. Thomas also served in the 28th Infantry Division of the Pennsylvania National Guard. The viewing will be held on Friday, March 21, 2025, from 5-8 pm (Malpezzi Funeral Home, Mechanicsburg) with a Mass of Christian Burial on Saturday March 22nd at 11am (Good Shepherd Catholic Church, Camp Hill).



Happy Birthday

• *Matthew Tuerk*, Mayor, City of Allentown



Committee Meetings

- (H) Game and Fisheries –
 9AM Informational meeting on the presentation of the Pennsylvania Game Commission's Annual Report for 2024
- (H) Liquor Control 9:30AM
 Voting meeting on HB 467
- (H) Environmental and Natural Resource Protection-10AM - Voting meeting on HB 43, HB 441, HB 448, HB 586, HB 789, HR 53
- (H) Aging and Older Adult Services- 10AM-Informational meeting on CAPE Monitoring Program of AAAs
- (H) Labor and Industry 10AM Voting meeting on



- HB 200, HB 265
- (H) Transportation 10AM -Voting meeting on HB 238, HB 472, HR 108
- (H) Commerce 10AM -Voting meeting on HB 78, HB 685, HB 881, HR 79
- (H) Finance 10:30AM -Voting meeting on HB 416, HB 422
- (S) Republican Policy 1PM -Public hearing on veterans workforce initiatives
- (H) Appropriations OTF Agenda to be announced



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