

# HARRISBURG ONLINE

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Presented by *Greenlee Partners*

April 23, 2025



***The State House will  
convene at 11 AM***

## CELEBRATION

Yesterday, a delayed annual Easter egg hunt took place at the Governor's Residence. Governor **Josh Shapiro**, Lt. Governor **Austin Davis**, and the First and Second Ladies hosted pre-school aged children at the event. This comes a little after a week after an arsonist set fire to the residence. While the burned section was roped off, kids enjoyed games, crafts, and animals on the Residence lawn.

## DEFAULT

On Monday, the U.S. Department of Education announced that it would restart collecting federal student loans in default beginning on May 5th. According to the Department, more than 5 million borrowers are in default. If borrowers do not set up a payment plan or loan rehabilitation process, the DOE will begin garnishing wages this summer. In an effort to end the Biden Administration's SAVE plan, borrowers will no longer be able to set up income-driven payment plans. Instead, they will have to sign up for a new "enhanced" process.

## ROGUE ONE

Harrisburg Mayor **Wanda Williams** announced she will run as an independent in the November general election if she loses the Democratic primary on May 20th. Williams revealed her plans during last night's abc27 Mayoral Debate, citing her previous success in a similar situation in 2021. She is currently facing four challengers in the crowded primary

## DINERS, DRIVE-INS, AND FRANCHISES

Billy's Downtown Diner, a beloved Bethlehem, Pennsylvania-based eatery founded in 2000, has announced plans to expand nationwide through a new franchise model. The diner has partnered with Franchise Well to launch a regional developer strategy aimed at bringing the brand to communities across the U.S. Developers will operate their own locations and help recruit franchisees within territories of one million people or more. Known for its creative menu and strong community ties, Billy's aims to scale its "Not Your Ordinary Diner" experience while maintaining its signature charm.

## AT EASE

U.S. Secretary of Defense **Pete Hegseth** will be making an appearance in the Commonwealth today. It has been announced Hegseth will visit the Carlisle Barracks this morning to speak with U.S. Army War students. Hegseth is a veteran who served in the United States Army.



### *Happy Birthday*

- Former State Representative **Barbara McIlvaine Smith**
- **Mike Walsh**, Deputy Secretary for Administration, DCNR
- **Donna Malpezzi**, Esq., Principal, DMM Consulting
- **Laura Conrad**



### *Committee Meetings*

- Joint Local Government Commission – 9AM – Monthly business meeting
- (H) Children and Youth – 9AM – To consider: HR195
- (H) Insurance – 9:15AM – Informational meeting on infertility care, titled "Putting Families First: Infertility Care in Pennsylvania"
- (H) Environmental and Natural Resource Protection – 10AM – To consider: HB586, 1210 and HR167 and 177
- (H) Housing and Community Development – 10AM – To consider: HB1250
- (H) Tourism, Recreation and Economic Development – 10AM – To consider: HB1030, and HR19, 161, 172, 175, 178, and 197
- (H) Agriculture and Rural Affairs – 10:30AM – To consider: HB587, 1096, and

1157

- (H) Consumer Protection, Technology and Utilities – 12PM - Informational meeting on enhancing grid resilience and energy independence with transportation electrification planning legislation
- (H) Appropriations – OTF - Agenda to be announced



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