

HARRISBURG ONLINE

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Presented by *Greenlee Partners*

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Happy National Intern Day!

NEW MINIMUM WAGE PITCH

State Senator **Dan Laughlin** (R-Erie) plans to introduce a bill phasing in increases to the state's minimum wage: \$9 in 2026, \$10 in 2027, and finally \$11 in 2028. He calls it a realistic update, noting that most employers already pay more to attract workers. Laughlin is critical of a House bill proposed earlier this session that would set different wages by county, saying the state needs a consistent approach. While past efforts have stalled, Laughlin hopes his "modest, phased" plan gains traction and reflects the real cost of living in the Keystone State. He joins State Senator **Christine Tartaglione** (D-Philadelphia) and others in recognizing the importance of this issue.

UNFETTERED AND UNFILTERED

U.S. Senator **John Fetterman** is set to release his memoir *Unfettered* on November 11, offering a blunt take on his life and political journey. In a recent social media post, Fetterman said the book will chronicle his time in public service, his 2022 stroke, and his experience with depression. Fetterman calls the memoir "raw," and said he hopes to inspire those facing mental health struggles.

HARRIS BOWS OUT

Former Vice President **Kamala Harris** officially shut down rumors of a 2026 California gubernatorial bid, saying she's stepping back from elected office...*for now, at least*. In a statement yesterday, the former VP emphasized her continued commitment to public service and Democratic causes, hinting at a behind-the-scenes role in national politics. With Harris out, contenders like **Xavier Becerra** and **Katie Porter** now have clearer paths to the governor's mansion.

ALCOHOLIC CELSIUS?

A recall of some CELSIUS energy drinks has been announced, as some of the cans are filled with High Noon vodka seltzer. Pennsylvania did not receive any of the mislabeled drinks, but our neighbors Ohio and Virginia have received some of the products. If you purchased the recalled beverage, you should contact High Noon Consumer Relations for the next

steps.

CRUNCHY COLLAB

Hershey recently unveiled that Reese's and OREO are teaming up to launch two new treats. First up, the Reese's OREO Cup: a white creme milk chocolate peanut butter cup packed with OREO cookie crumbs. Then there is the OREO Reese's Cookie, which remixes the classic OREO sandwich cookies by filling them with Reese's peanut butter cream and cookie crumbs for an extra crunch. Pre-sales for the Reese's OREO Cup start August 18, with both products hitting shelves nationwide in September 2025.



Happy Birthday

- State Senator **Judy L. Schwank**
- Former State Representative **Curtis G. Sonney**
- **Sean Kitchen**, PA Political Correspondent, Courier Newsroom
- **Eric Gutshall**, Partner, Pinnacle Collective Public Affairs
- **Mark Fetzko**, Director, Government Affairs and Stakeholder Engagement, PSERS
- **Joe Massaro**, President & CEO, PA Restaurant & Lodging Association (PRLA)



GREENLEE PARTNERS

230 State Street,
Harrisburg, PA 17101
717-236-0443

CONTACT US

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

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