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Presented by *Greenlee Partners*

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***The State House and
State Senate will convene
at 9:30 AM.***

BUDGET PROGRESS

The Pennsylvania State Senate Appropriations Committee passed a \$50.1 billion budget bill that is waiting on a full vote from the Senate and further consideration from the House. This is \$2.3 billion more than last year's budget but less than the governor's \$51.5 billion proposed budget. In exchange for a deal to pull Pennsylvania out of the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative, the budget includes a \$105 million increase in basic education funding, \$665 million going towards highway safety improvements, and one billion dollars towards highway maintenance.

THAT'S COAL

Congratulations to Pennsylvania's own Core Natural Resources for recently having the honor to receive the Washington County Chamber of Commerce's **Jack Piatt** Spirit of Southpointe Award. Core Natural Resources, headquartered in Washington County, is a world class leader in the coal industry and helps bolster the nation's steel and cement industry. To receive the award, Core's Executive Chair and CEO **Jimmy Brock** attended the Washington County Chamber of Commerce's annual Spirit of Southpointe reception and award ceremony and participated in a fireside chat with Pennsylvania Coal Alliance Executive Director **Rachel Gleason**.

SASQUATCH REPORTED

A driver on I-80 in Centre County reported a tall, dark, human-like figure crossing the

highway in daylight, prompting a new case from the Bigfoot Field Researchers Organization. The witness, a bear hunter, said the figure moved quickly and cleared a guardrail, with long limbs and no visible clothing. BFRO says the account appears credible and notes its vetting process includes interviews and site checks. The group has logged other 2025 reports in states like Georgia, Tennessee, Ohio, and Missouri.

SKY GLOWS BRIGHT

Central Pennsylvania residents were treated to a rare sight Tuesday night as the aurora borealis lit up the sky. The Space Weather Prediction Center confirmed a powerful solar flare early that morning, triggering a severe storm watch and creating vivid northern lights across much of the U.S. The flare, classified as an X5.1, ranks among the strongest types visible from Earth.

NO DO-OVERS

The U.S Supreme Court refused to hear a challenge Monday that would overturn the court decision legalizing same-sex marriage. The Court turned down an appeal from former Kentucky court clerk **Kim Davis** who refused to issue marriage licenses to same-sex couples after the Court's decision on 2015's *Obergefell v. Hodges*. She claimed that the original decision was wrong and "deeply damaging." No explanation from the Court was given as to why the appeal was rejected.



Happy Birthday

- State Senator **John Kane**
- State Representative **Jennifer O'Mara**
- **Carlton Logue**, Chief of Staff and Counsel, Office of Majority Leader Pittman
- **Craig Shuey**, Chief Operating Officer, PA Turnpike Commission
- **John Bolger**
- **Anne E. Lazarus**, President Judge, Superior Court of Pennsylvania
- **Bethany Hallam**, Councilperson, Allegheny County



Committee Meetings

- (S) Appropriations – OTF – To consider: HB 416 and HB 1421
- (H) Appropriations – 9:00AM – To be announced
- (H) Judiciary – 11:00AM – To consider: HB 384, HB 458, HB 490, HB 886, HB 1385, HB 1432, HB 1476, HB 1479, HB 1671, HB 1891, HB 1908, HB 1909, HB 1935, HR 58, HR 240, SB 418



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