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BLUE SWEEP

Yesterday's election boded well for Democrats across the Commonwealth and the Nation. In Pennsylvania, all three Democrat PA Supreme Court Justices were retained, while **Stella Tsia** (D) won a seat on the Commonwealth Court and **Brandon Neuman** (D) secured a spot on the Superior Court. In Pittsburgh, **Corey O'Connor** (D) will serve as the 62nd Mayor and in Philadelphia, District Attorney **Larry Krasner** (D) won a third term. Meanwhile, in other parts of the country, **Abigail Spanberger** (D) won her bid for Governor in Virginia, **Mikie Sherrill** (D) won the Governor's race in New Jersey, and **Zohran Mamdani** (D) secured his bid as NYC Mayor.

FOOD AID UNCERTAIN

In a post on Truth Social, President **Donald Trump** said that Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) benefits will not be distributed until the government shutdown ends, despite federal court ruling requiring at least partial payments. About 42 million Americans rely on SNAP, most of them children or older adults. The White House said it is complying with court orders, but warned payments could take time to process, while advocates called the delay devastating for families who depend on the program as we reach day 36 in the federal government shutdown.

THC, NOT FOR THEE

In a letter to Congress from a coalition of 38 Attorneys General across the nation, Pennsylvania Attorney General **Dave Sunday** urged them to clarify the definition of hemp. Sunday stated, "For too long, bad actors have used the loophole in the 2018 Farm Bill to profit from super-potent, hemp-derived THC products by placing them in gas stations, convenience stores, and online marketplaces... This unregulated market allows children to buy these extremely potent products, oftentimes without any knowledge that the products are intoxicating, addictive, and not safe." Congress would be able to better define hemp as part of either the appropriations process for the upcoming budget or the reauthorization of the Farm Bill.

IMPENDING SHUTDOWN

The Morrisville Borough School District in Bucks County may have to shut down its schools January 30th of next year if the state of Pennsylvania does not pass a budget. The district is reliant on state appropriations to fund more than half of its operating budget. Having previously frozen spending and held off on making payments, Morrisville School District is running out of options. This comes as other school systems across the state are struggling to keep their schools open and running.

SWEET LIGHTS, SWEETER NIGHTS

The holiday spirit is lighting up Hershey as Christmas Candylane and Hershey Sweet Lights return this November. Starting November 14th, Hersheypark will transform into a winter wonderland filled with millions of lights, a brand-new holiday show, and the first-ever seasonal appearance of the park's towering swing ride. Guests can also visit Santa and his nine reindeer. For those who prefer to stay cozy, Hershey Sweet Lights offers a two-mile drive-through display of more than 500 glowing scenes. Both attractions run through January 4th, with select dates and extended hours through the holidays.



Happy Birthday

·State Representative **Jamie Barton**
·**Michael A. Sarfert**, Counsel to the Chief Clerk, Senate of Pennsylvania
·**Danielle Bowers**, President, Harrisburg City Council; Executive Director, House Children and Youth Committee
·**Karen Schreck**, Accounting Technician, PA Office of the Budget, Comptroller Operations
·**Lori Schreiber**, Clerk of Courts, Montgomery County
·**Nathan Akers**, Chief of Staff, Office of State Senator Judy Ward

Committee Meetings

- (H) Environmental and Natural Resource Protection – 10:00AM - Public hearing on the proposed LNG Export Terminal



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