

# HARRISBURG ONLINE

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Presented by *Greenlee Partners*

**December 17, 2025**



*The State House  
will convene at 11am.*

## **DICKINSON GOES FREE**

Dickinson College announced it will offer free tuition to domestic students from families earning \$125,000 or less, starting with the incoming class of 2030. This expands the school's Dickinson Promise, launched earlier this year, which eliminated student loans for families earning under \$75,000. College officials said the move is aimed at reducing financial barriers as college costs rise, with more than 5,000 donors contributing to fund the initiative.

## **GOT MILK?**

Earlier this week, Congress passed a bill allowing whole milk to be served at public schools across the nation, changing previous laws limiting the kind of milk allowed in schools. Those in favor of the bill cited misunderstandings surrounding milk fat content that has harmed milk farmers as well as students. The bill passed with bipartisan support.

## **THE INTERVIEW**

President **Donald Trump** is in the process of interviewing potential candidates for Federal Reserve Chair. He is set to interview current Fed Governor **Christopher Waller** for the position having previously interviewed former Fed Governor **Kevin Warsh** and National Economic Council Director **Kevin Hassett**. Both names have been floated as front-runners. Those familiar with the process have said the reasoning behind the more methodical approach to appointing the

next Fed Chair is buyer's remorse over the appointment of current Federal Reserve Chair **Jerome Powell** who the White House claims has been slow to cut interest rates.

## CAPITOL TRIBUTE

The U.S. Capitol unveiled a new statue honoring civil rights activist **Barbara Rose Johns**, replacing a statue of Confederate General **Robert E. Lee** that was removed in 2020. Johns was just 16 when she led a student strike in 1951 to protest segregated and unequal conditions at her Virginia high school, an action that helped lead to the landmark Brown v. Board of Education decision. The statue, now part of the National Statuary Hall Collection, depicts Johns holding a book above her head and includes a quote from Isaiah. Virginia leaders and more than 200 family members attended the unveiling.

## RECORD SMOOCH

Washington, D.C. set a new Guinness World Record after 1,435 couples kissed simultaneously under a massive mistletoe installation downtown, shattering the previous record of 480. The five second synchronized kiss took place beneath the “National Mistletoe,” a 30-foot hanging sphere of greenery hosted by the DowntownDC Business Improvement District. Organizers said the event drew thousands to the area and was aimed at bringing energy and foot traffic to downtown during the holiday season.



### *Happy Birthday*

- U.S. Congressman **Brian Fitzpatrick**
- State Representative **Zachary Mako**
- Former State Secretary of Department of Aging **Brian Duke**, System Director of Senior Services, Main Line Health
- **Holi Senior**
- **Amyra Weiss**, Chief Communications Visionary & Storyteller, AIA Pennsylvania
- **Carole Hoover**, Pennsylvania Legislative Reference Bureau
- **Michael Lightner**, Officer, Lower Allen Township Police Department



### *Committee Meetings*

- (H) Appropriations – OTF – To be announced
- (S) Democratic Policy – 10:00AM - Public hearing on solutions for addressing housing affordability
- (H) Health – 10:00AM – To consider: HB 1202, HB 1851, HR 379, HR 382
- (H) Environmental and Natural Resource Protection – 10:00AM – To consider: HB 1116, HR 66, HR 352
- (H) Local Government – 10:00AM – To consider: HB 1764, HB 2087, SB 862, SB 971, SB 975, SB 1036
- (H) Finance – 10:00AM – To consider: HB 1450



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