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PASSPORTS AT LIBRARIES

After The State Department determined that federal regulations would not allow passport services at local Pennsylvania libraries, U.S. legislators are determined to step in. U.S. Representatives **John Joyce** (R- PA) and **Madeline Dean** (D – PA) introduced H.R. 6997, the Community Passport Services Access Act, which will restore these services at local libraries. Passport services generate a large chunk of revenue for the libraries, and their budgets would be severely impacted by that loss.

DISRESPECTFUL DAMAGE

Last week, Park Rangers at the Gettysburg National Military Park reported that significant vandalism had occurred. Twenty-three monuments were vandalized with an oil-based substance. Sadly, several of the damaged monuments will take on an extensive cleaning process, including the Pennsylvania State Monument, which was also vandalized. Historians, Park Rangers, and law enforcement have expressed their disappointment in the vile act against Pennsylvanian and American history.

PAUSED

Starting January 21st, the State Department will pause its work of processing immigrant visas for 75 countries. This will primarily prevent permanent visas typically obtained through marriage or work, and temporary travel visas will not be affected. Some countries included in the ban are Afghanistan, Iran, Russia, and Somalia. The Trump Administration aims to stop entry for immigrants that they feel will become a "public charge."

BEST METRO IN PA

The Harrisburg region takes the top spot as the best liveable metro area in Pennsylvania, according to a study conducted by RentCafe. The capital region ranks 9th nationally. Metrics include healthy food options, cost of living, and community feel. One major contributor was commute time; most people in the Harrisburg metro area spend less than 30 minutes a day commuting. The study also shows the cost of living in and around Harrisburg to be 4% below the national average. Harrisburg is followed by Pittsburgh then Philadelphia.

TICKETS

Do you want a seat at the 2028 summer Olympics? Now is your chance! [Registration](#) is now open for a lottery to buy tickets for the games, which will be held in Los Angeles. This is the first step in purchasing tickets for the games that will be held July 14th to the 30th in 2028. After registering, individuals will get the chance to sign up for time slots to purchase said tickets. Although those from Los Angeles and Oklahoma City will have first dibs at the time slots, anyone can register for a chance.



Happy Birthday

- Former State Senator **Jimmy Dillon**
- **Jim Davis**, Executive Vice President, Cozen O'Connor Public Strategies
- **Marcia Lampman**, Counsel, Senate Appropriations



Committee Meetings

- Joint Independent Regulatory Review Commission – 10:00AM - [Agenda](#)
- Joint Center for Rural Pennsylvania – 12:30PM - Public hearing to give an update on the Pennsylvania hemp industry



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