

# HARRISBURG ONLINE

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Presented by *Greenlee Partners*

**April 15, 2026**  
**It's Tax Day!**



*The State House will convene at  
11am.*

## POTENTIAL SUPPORT

U.S. Senator **John Fetterman** (D-Pennsylvania) is not shy about breaking ranks from his party. PA Republican Chairman **Greg Rothman** announced that he isn't opposed to supporting Fetterman for re-election. However, the catch is that Fetterman would only gain support if he switches parties, but there are still other Republicans looking to run. He is not up for reelection until 2028 so things could still change.

## SCHOOL CHOICE

U.S. Education Secretary, **Linda McMahon** is urging Governor Shapiro to opt into the federal school choice program. 29 other states, a majority with Republican governors, have already opted into the program. McMahon believes that there is a state tax provision in place that is very similar. Republican lawmakers rallied last Friday to push the issue further.

## SOLD

The Pittsburgh Post-Gazette has officially been sold, potentially saving the institution. The region's largest and oldest newspaper was sold to Venetoulis Institute for Local Journalism. They are a non-profit publisher, and plan to maintain Post-Gazette's print days on Thursday and Sunday. The transfer could revive the newspaper, but details are yet to come.

## FARE-LY GOOD IDEA

Rabbit Transit, which serves South Central PA, is getting an upgrade. Riders will now be able to pay fares through an account-based system. This will allow riders to add money to their account either online or at ticket vending machines. The change is intended to make taking the bus, an already great experience, even better.

## WHAT THE DUCK?

The world's largest rubber duck will be making an appearance in Pittsburgh ahead of the NFL draft. There will be a two-day tailgate party open to the public to celebrate. The duck is a touring attraction owned by Big Duck LLC. CEO **Jason Wolfe** said that Pittsburgh gave him a second chance, and the duck is his way of saying thank you.



### *Happy Birthday*

- Former State Representative **Donna Oberlander**
- Former State Representative **Alan L. Butkovitz**
- **Justin Walsh**, Judge, Westmoreland County Court of Common Pleas
- **Brittany Mako\***, Government Affairs Manager, Capital Blue Cross
- **Jarrett Smith**, Legislative Director, SEIU Pennsylvania State Council
- **Jessica Walls-Lavelle**, President, JWL Strategies

### *Committee Meetings*

- (H) Appropriations – OTF – To be announced
- (H) Local Government – OTF – To consider: HR 431, HR 455, and HR 465
- (H) Finance – 9:30AM – To consider: HB 2300 and HB 2305



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