

HARRISBURG ONLINE

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MEASLES CASES RISE

Measles cases are continuing to climb across the United States, with the virus now reported in 43 states and confirmed cases reaching 2,318 nationwide, according to the CDC. That total has already surpassed the 2,289 cases reported during all of 2025, making 2026 the nation's worst year for measles since 1991. Pennsylvania is among several states that have recorded hundreds of cases in recent months.

BROAD STREET SCULPTURES

The next addition to the Avenue of the Arts revitalization plan will be the installation of new sculptures within a newly landscaped median along South Broad Street (Spruce to Pine). Two 20-foot-long yellow sculptures will be placed outside the Kimmel Center and Hamilton Hall after artist **Miguel Horn's** design was approved by the Philadelphia Art Commission. As part of the project, signage will be installed nearby, allowing visitors to learn more about the sculptures.

REGULATION PUSH

Dauphin County Coroner **Graham Hetrick** held a press conference on Friday regarding the sale of kratom and OH-7, a synthetic compound of the plant that the FDA has deemed dangerous. Sold in forms such as gummies, beverages, and tablets, kratom is legal in Pennsylvania and is marketed for pain relief and opioid withdrawal. Hetrick said the drug is promoted as safe, but Dauphin County has recorded three deaths related to the drug this year. Bills to regulate kratom sales have been proposed in Pennsylvania, though none have been passed.

WILLIAM PENN DEMOLITION

Demolition of the long-vacant William Penn High School building in Harrisburg is set to begin tomorrow, marking the next phase of a roughly \$6.8 million project approved by the Harrisburg School Board earlier this year. The 100-year-old building has sat empty since 2011, and crews have spent recent months conducting asbestos abatement work ahead of the demolition. The district is working closely with the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection to ensure the project complies with all environmental regulations.

JAMES JOINS 76ERS

LeBron James announced on Friday that he is joining the Philadelphia 76ers, calling it his "last decision" after considering retirement following his 23rd NBA season with the Los Angeles Lakers. The NBA's leading player said he still has the passion to compete and believes he can help bring a championship to Philadelphia. James signed a two-year, \$8 million contract, saying his choice was driven by the opportunity to win rather than money.



Happy Birthday

- U.S. Congressman **Glenn Thompson**
- Former State Representative **Jerry L. Nailor**
- **Guisy Schiano Lomoriello**, Committee Operations Coordinator, PA House Democratic Caucus
- **Fred Sembach**
- **David H. Wilderman**



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