

HARRISBURG ONLINE

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CHECK PLEASE!

New campaign finance reports show Governor **Josh Shapiro** has raised more than \$13 million during the latest reporting period, while state Treasurer **Stacy Garrity** raised more than \$1.8 million. The candidates are scheduled to meet for their only planned debate on October 7 ahead of Pennsylvania's November 3 gubernatorial election.

BALLOT IN TRANSIT

Pennsylvania has launched a new toolkit to help counties offer on-demand mail ballot voting ahead of the November election. The tool allows voters to apply for, complete and return a mail ballot in one visit at a county elections office or designated satellite location. Secretary of the Commonwealth **Al Schmidt** said the option provides voters with more flexibility in lieu of traditional voting. As of September 22, more than 986,000 mail ballot applications had been approved, representing about 95% of applications received.

TRANSPARENT IMPROVEMENT

State Representative **Jill Cooper** (R-Westmoreland) has introduced HB 2789 that would require the disclosure and publication of closure requests for college campuses. Current Pennsylvania law gives closure authority solely to the state's education secretary. Additionally, it is not legally required to inform impacted communities that a school closure could be underway.

INKING A LIVING

The Pennsylvania Department of Corrections is seeking a professional tattoo artist to lead a new apprenticeship program at SCI Frackville. The program would provide incarcerated individuals with hands-on training in tattooing, covering topics such as health and safety, design fundamentals, equipment use, tattooing techniques, customer communication, and studio operations. Officials say the initiative is designed to help participants develop specialized job skills and improve employment prospects after release.

BREWING UP FALL

Capital Rebirth and Friends of Midtown will host a free Coffee & Arts Festival on September 26 in Midtown Harrisburg, featuring family-friendly activities, local art, coffee, and community events. The festival will take place along N. 3rd Street between Reily and Calder streets from 9 a.m. to noon and will include yoga, a coffee-themed sip-and-paint, pumpkin painting, an arts and crafts vendor market, and a variety of yard games. Organizers say the event is designed to celebrate local creativity, support small businesses, and bring neighbors together to kick off the fall season.



Happy Birthday

- **Michael Wojcik**, Commonwealth Court Judge
- **Jacob Misal**, Senior Policy Analyst, Pennsylvania House Republican Caucus
- **Jessica Shirley**, Secretary of Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection
- **Deborah A. Kunselman**, Judge, PA Superior Court
- **Fern Leard**, Democratic Candidate for the 120th District, PA House of Representatives



Committee Meetings

- Joint Medical Assistance Advisory Committee – 10:00AM – Meeting
- (S) Veterans Affairs and Emergency Preparedness – 11:30AM - Joint informational meeting with the House Veterans Affairs and Emergency Preparedness committee on combat to careers
- (H) Judiciary – 1PM – To consider: HB 1097, HB 2699, HB 2744, HB 2752, HB 2758, HR 594, HR 618, and SB 381



GREENLEE PARTNERS

230 State Street,
Harrisburg, PA 17101
717-236-0443

CONTACT US

Greenlee Partners, LLC | 230 State Street | Harrisburg, PA 17101 US

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