

HARRISBURG ONLINE

HARRISBURG'S FAVORITE NEWS SOURCE SINCE 1993

Presented by *Greenlee Partners*

October 20, 2026



*The State House will convene at
11am and the State Senate will
convene at 1pm*

CHARGED

The Pennsylvania State Police (PSP) have arrested a man for sending threatening messages to State Representative **Jamie Walsh** (R - Luzerne). The newly formed PSP Political Violence Threat Unit was contacted about the emails, some of which were considered “unhinged”. Court documents according to the arrest allege that the man claimed to be the President of the United States and sent similarly threatening messages to Governor’s office. PSP’s Political Threat Violence Unit was initially established earlier this year to address the rise in threats made against elected officials from both sides of the aisle.

LEFT ON READ

Just two weeks before the election and just days before a scheduled debate, Congressional candidate **Bob Brooks** (D) pulled out of debating opponent Congressman **Ryan Mackenzie** (R - PA 7). On Sunday, Brooks sent a cease-and-desist letter to Mackenzie and NRCC based on advertisements claiming that Brooks violated state laws regarding workers’ compensation laws. In the letter, Brooks’ team demanded that the letter be removed and post a retraction. Mackenzie’s team claims that this is an “orchestrated spectacle” to “dodge accountability”. It remains unclear if the ad has been removed.

PUSH THE ENVELOPE

The Pennsylvania State Police launched the Blue Envelope Program, which intends to enhance communication support for individuals with disabilities. By identifying communication barriers and

improving information provided to law enforcement, traffic stops can move more smoothly. The blue envelope stored in the individual's car may include information about their communication preferences, sensory needs, or other considerations. Anyone interested can collect a blue envelope at their local police station.

DOSE OF PROGRESS

President **Donald Trump** is set to sign an executive order creating a new women's health division at the National Institutes of Health and a White House task force, an initiative championed by First Lady **Melania Trump**. The effort aims to expand research and treatment options for conditions including maternal health, endometriosis, heart disease, osteoporosis, and Alzheimer's disease. The task force will be led by **Susie Wiles** and **Robert F. Kennedy Jr.**, with an emphasis on closing research gaps and accelerating medical discoveries affecting women's health.

RAISE SOME SPIRITS

The Historical Society of Dauphin County is inviting visitors to explore the darker side of local history. On Friday, the Haunted History program will open the doors of the John Harris-Simon Cameron Mansion for an evening of ghost stories, historic lore, and a look inside one of Harrisburg's oldest homes. Perfect for thrill-seekers and history buffs alike, the event will feature storytelling from local raconteur **Alison Coppock** along with hauntingly delicious light bites and spirits of all kinds. [Tickets](#) are \$25 and the event begins at 7:30 p.m.



Happy Birthday

- State Senator **Scott Martin**
- Former U.S. Congressman **Patrick Meehan**
- Former U.S. Congressman **Robert A. Borski**
- Former State Representative **Neal P. Goodman**
- **Madison Laughman***, Principal, Greenlee Partners
- **Paul Zwally**



Committee Meetings

- (H) Appropriations – OTF – To be announced
- (S) Appropriations – OTF – To consider: SB 1403, HB 36, HB 559, HB 593, HB 961, HB 1095, HB 1098, HB 1123, HB 1652, HB 1704, HB 2187, HB 2299, HB 2443, HB 2474 and HB 2614
- (S) Rules and Executive Nominations – OTF – To consider: SB 398
- (H) Veterans Affairs and Emergency Preparedness – OTF – To consider: HR 250, HR 581, HR 655, HR 659, and HR 663
- Joint Center for Rural Pennsylvania – 9:00AM - Public

hearing on Women's Health in Rural Pennsylvania

- (S) Education – 10:00AM - Public hearing on reduced-credit baccalaureate degrees
- (S) Consumer Protection and Professional Licensure – 10:00AM - Public hearing on the impact of Verizon's line discontinuance application



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