
Megan E. Rulli

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File #: 212923

March 24, 2026

VIA ELECTRONIC FILING

Matthew L. Homsher, Secretary
Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission
Commonwealth Keystone Building
400 North Street, 2nd Floor
P.O. Box 3265
Harrisburg, PA 17105-3265

Re: Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission, et al. v. National Fuel Gas Distribution Corporation
Docket Nos. R-2025-3059428, et al.

Dear Secretary Homsher:

Enclosed for filing on behalf of National Fuel Gas Distribution Corporation (“Distribution”), is the Affidavit of Donald Koch, with attachments, regarding compliance with public notice requirements in the above-referenced proceeding. The Affidavit is filed pursuant to the Commission’s regulations at 52 Pa. Code § 53.45(h) (regarding filing of an affidavit upon completion of notice requirements).

Copies will be provided as indicated on the Certificate of Service.

Respectfully submitted,



Megan E. Rulli

MER/sll
Attachments

cc: Honorable Katrina L. Dunderdale (*via first-class mail; w/attachment*)
Certificate of Service

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that a true and correct copy of the foregoing has been served upon the following persons, in the manner indicated, in accordance with the requirements of 52 Pa. Code § 1.54 (relating to service by a participant).

VIA E-MAIL

Scott B. Granger, Esquire
Bureau of Investigation & Enforcement
Commonwealth Keystone Building
400 North Street, 2nd Floor West
P.O. Box 3265
Harrisburg, PA 17105-3265
E-mail: sgranger@pa.gov

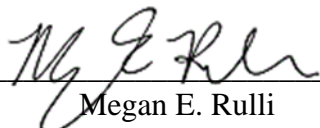
Joel H. Cheskis, Esquire
Harrison W. Breitman, Esquire
Ryan M. Morden, Esquire
Olivia M. Spergel, Esquire
Janna E. Williams, Esquire
Crystal M. Zook, Esquire
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E-mail: jlvullo@bvrrlaw.com

Levi A. Phillips, Esquire
Ria M. Pereira, Esquire
Elizabeth R. Marx, Esquire
John W. Sweet, Esquire
Lauren N. Berman, Esquire
Pennsylvania Utility Law Project
118 Locust Street
Harrisburg, PA 17101
E-mail: pulp@pautilitylawproject.org

Date: March 24, 2026


Megan E. Rulli

COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA :
 :
 : SS.
COUNTY OF ERIE :
 :

AFFIDAVIT

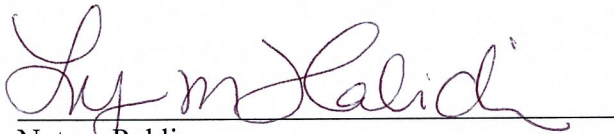
On this 24th day of March 2026, before me, a Notary Public in and for the State of New York and Erie County, personally appeared Donald Koch, who, being duly sworn according to law, deposes and says that he is a Lead Rate Analyst of National Fuel Gas Distribution Corporation (“National Fuel”) and that: (1) on January 28, 2026, National Fuel filed Supplement No. 294 to its Tariff Gas – Pa. P.U.C. No. 9 (“Tariff”) with the Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission (“Commission”), which filing constitutes a general base rate increase; (2) National Fuel has complied with the “Alternative Method” notice requirements of the Commission's regulations at 52 Pa. Code § 53.45(b)(4); (3) for customers receiving paper bills, the attached copy of a notice to customers concerning the filing of the Tariff (“Bill Insert”) was inserted in envelopes containing customer bills beginning on or about February 5, 2026, and which Bill Insert continued to be inserted in envelopes containing customer bills for an entire billing cycle until all National Fuel’s paper billing customers whose rates would be increased by the Tariff received the notice; (4) for customers enrolled in electronic billing, a link to the attached Bill Insert was included with customer electronic bills beginning on or about February 5, 2026, and which Bill Insert continued to be included with customer bills for an entire billing cycle until all National Fuel’s electronic billing customers whose rates would be increased by the Tariff received the notice; (5) poster-size copies of the bill insert notice were posted at National Fuel’s in-person payment locations, *i.e.*, 1100 State Street, Erie, PA 16501 and 1 Relief St., Oil City PA 16301; and (6) the attached “Proofs of

Publication” of paid newspaper advertisements containing notice of the proposed rate change, published on January 29, 2026, were provided by the Beaver County Times/Ellwood City Ledger, The Bradford Era, the Butler Eagle, The Clarion News, the Clearfield Progress, the DuBois Courier Express, the Ellwood City Ledger, the Erie Times-News, the Jeffersonian Democrat, the Kittanning Leader Times, the Meadville Tribune, the New Castle News, the Sharon Herald, The Derrick, the Ridgway Record, St. Mary’s Daily Press, the Warren Times Observer, the Corry Journal, the Kane Republican, and the Greenfield Record-Argus.



Donald Koch

Subscribed and sworn to
before me this 24th day of
March 2026


Notary Public

LYNN M. HALICKI
Notary Public, State of New York
Registration No. 01HA6264202
Qualified in Niagara County
Commission Expires June 25, 2028

Bill Inserts



National Fuel[®]

To Our Customers:

National Fuel Gas Distribution Corporation (National Fuel or Company) is filing a request with the Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission (PUC) to increase your gas distribution rates as of March 29, 2026. This notice describes the Company's rate request, the PUC's role, and what actions you can take.

The Company has requested a base rate increase of \$19.7 million per year. This filing also includes a request for approval of the following alternative rate mechanisms in accordance with 66 Pa. C.S. § 1330: 1) Permanent Weather Normalization Adjustment; 2) Energy Efficiency (EE) pilot program for an additional \$0.7 million per year to be recovered from residential customers through a separate rider. Additionally, the Company has proposed the reactivation of the OPEB rider I surcredit to refund \$7.2 million for customer bill relief.

If the Company's entire request is approved, the total bill for a residential customer using 80 ccf per month would increase from \$83.49 to \$90.28 per month, or by 8.1% including the proposed EE rider. From \$83.49 to \$88.44 per month, or by 5.9% when including the proposed OPEB rider I surcredit extension.

The total bill for a small commercial customer using 257 ccf per month would increase from \$189.24 to \$201.21 per month or by 6.5%. From \$189.24 to \$198.11 per month, or by 5.1% when including the proposed OPEB rider I surcredit extension.

The total bill for an intermediate volume industrial customer using 802 Mcf monthly would increase from \$1,905.13 to \$2,039.29 per month, or by 7.0%. From \$1,905.13 to \$1,984.36 per month, or by 4.2% when including the proposed OPEB rider I surcredit extension.

To find out your customer class or how the requested increase may affect your gas bill, contact National Fuel at 1-800-365-3234. The rates requested by the Company may be found in Supplement No. 294 to Tariff Gas - Pa. P.U.C. No. 9. You may examine the material filed with the PUC, which explains the requested increase and the reasons for it. A copy of this material is kept at National Fuel's Consumer Assistance Centers. Upon request, the Company will send you a statement of reasons for Supplement No. 294 explaining why the Company requested the rate increase.

The state agency which approves rates for public utilities is the PUC. The PUC will examine the requested rate increase and can prevent existing rates from changing

until it investigates and/or holds hearings on the request. The Company must prove that the requested rates are reasonable. After examining the evidence, the PUC may grant all, some, or none of the request or may reduce existing rates.

The PUC may change the amount of the rate increase or decrease requested by the utility for each customer class. As a result, the rate charged to you may be different than the rate requested by the Company and shown above.

There are three ways to challenge a company's request to change its rates:

1. You can file a formal complaint. If you want a hearing before a judge, you must file a formal complaint. By filing a formal complaint, you assure yourself the opportunity to take part in hearings about the rate increase request. All complaints should be filed with the PUC before March 29, 2026. If no formal complaints are filed, the Commission may grant all, some or none of the request without holding a hearing before a judge.

2. You can send us a letter explaining why you object to the requested rate increase. Sometimes there is information in these letters that makes us aware of problems with the Company's service or management. This information can be helpful when we investigate the rate request.

Send your letter or request for a formal complaint form to the Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission, Post Office Box 3265, Harrisburg, PA 17105-3265.

3. You can be a witness at a public input hearing. Public input hearings are held if the Commission opens an investigation of the company's rate increase request and if there is a large number of customers interested in the case. At these hearings you have the opportunity to present your views in person to the PUC judge hearing the case and the Company representatives. All testimony given "under oath" becomes part of the official rate case record. These hearings are held in the service area of the Company.

For more information, call the PUC at 1-800-692-7380. You may leave your name and address so you can be notified of any public input hearings that may be scheduled in this case.



National Fuel[®]

Transportation Customers

To Our Customers:

National Fuel Gas Distribution Corporation (National Fuel or Company) has filed a request with the Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission (PUC) to increase your gas transportation rates as of March 29, 2026. This notice describes the Company's rate request, the PUC's role, and what actions you can take.

National Fuel's Request

The Company has requested a base rate increase of \$19.7 million per year. This filing also includes a request for approval of the following alternative rate mechanisms in accordance with 66 Pa. C.S. § 1330: 1) Permanent Weather Normalization Adjustment; and 2) Energy Efficiency ("EE") pilot program for an additional \$0.7 million per year to be recovered from residential customers through a separate rider. Additionally, the Company has proposed the reactivation of the OPEB rider I surcredit to refund \$7.2 million for customer bill relief. If the Company's request is approved, total bills will increase as follows:

- For a monthly metered large commercial/public authority transportation customer using 371 Mcf per month an increase from \$802.92 to \$883.14 per month, or by 10.0%. From \$802.92 to \$835.26 per month, or by 4.0% when including the proposed OPEB rider I surcredit extension.
- For a monthly metered intermediate volume industrial customer using 772 Mcf per month an increase from \$1,342.35 to \$1,471.04 per month, or by 9.6%. From \$1,342.35 to \$1,421.59 per month, or by 5.9% when including the proposed OPEB rider I surcredit extension.
- For a large industrial daily metered transportation customer using 30,860 Mcf per month an increase from \$20,586.28 to \$22,572.54 per month, or by 9.6%. From \$20,586.28 to \$21,117.41 per month, or by 2.6% when including the proposed OPEB rider I surcredit extension.

To find out your customer class or how the requested increase may affect your gas bill, contact National Fuel at 1-800-551-5991. The rates we requested are in Supplement No. 294 to Tariff Gas - Pa. P.U.C. No. 9. You may examine the material filed with the PUC, which explains the requested increase and the reasons for it. A copy of this material is kept at each of National Fuel's Consumer Assistance Centers. Upon request, the Company will send you a statement of reasons for Supplement No. 294 explaining why the Company requested the rate increase.

The PUC's Role

The state agency which approves rates for public utilities is the PUC. The PUC will examine the requested rate increase and can prevent existing rates from changing until it investigates and/or holds hearings on the request. The Company must prove that the requested rates are reasonable. After examining the evidence, the PUC may grant all, some, or none of the request or may reduce existing rates.

The PUC may change the amount of the rate increase requested by the utility for each customer class. As a result, the rate charged to you may be different than the rate the Company requested.

Actions You Can Take

There are three ways to challenge a requested rate change:

1. You can file a formal complaint. If you want a hearing before a judge, you must file a formal complaint. By filing a formal complaint, you assure yourself the opportunity to take part in hearings about the rate increase request. All complaints should be filed with the PUC before March 29, 2026. If no formal complaints are filed, the PUC may grant all, some or none of the request without holding a hearing before a judge.
2. You can send the PUC a letter telling why you object to the requested rate increase. Sometimes there is information in these letters that makes the PUC aware of problems with the Company's service or management. This information can be helpful when the PUC investigates the rate request.

Send your letter or request for a formal complaint form to the Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission, Post Office Box 3265, Harrisburg, PA 17105-3265.

3. You can be a witness at a public input hearing. Public input hearings are held if the PUC opens an investigation of the Company's rate increase request and if there is a large number of customers interested in the case. At these hearings you have the opportunity to present your views in person to the PUC judge hearing the case and the Company representatives. All testimony given "under oath" becomes part of the official rate case record. These hearings are held in the service area of the Company.

For more information call the PUC at 1-800-692-7380. You may leave your name and address so you can be notified of any public input hearings that are scheduled in this case.

National Fuel

Proofs of Publication

Banks navigate shifting policy environment

Trump lawsuit highlights friction with Wall Street

Lananh Nguyen, Manya Saini
and Douglas Gillison
REUTERS

WASHINGTON — President Donald Trump's lawsuit against JPMorgan Chase and its CEO Jamie Dimon highlights a growing, and politically fraught, conflict in the administration's policy agenda for Wall Street, with big banks scoring wins but also facing setbacks.

In his most confrontational move yet against Wall Street, Trump filed a \$5 billion lawsuit on Jan. 22 accusing the nation's largest lender and Dimon of closing several of his and his companies' accounts on political grounds. Trump has long claimed that Wall Street banks have sought to marginalize him and other conservatives — allegations JPMorgan and other banks deny.

The move underscores how large financial institutions, expected to be major winners of Trump's sweeping deregulatory agenda, are increasingly navigating an unpredictable and sometimes hostile policy environment that could damage their reputations, potentially affect their business, and force them to rethink their lobbying strategy in Washington.

"The industry is losing as many battles as it wins on big issues and the constant pressure and random nature of developments is taking its toll," said Todd Baker, a senior fellow at Columbia University. The president's lawsuit follows his threat to cap interest rates on consumer credit cards at 10% — a proposal Dimon warned would be an "economic disaster" — and comes as Trump's regulators move to make it easier for fintech, crypto firms and some corporations to compete directly with traditional banks.

"The Trump administration is delivering by shoring up financial markets and cutting unnecessary red tape to accelerate growth," White House spokesman Kush Desai said.

JPMorgan declined to comment. On Jan. 22, it said "we believe the suit has no merit. We respect the President's right to sue us and our right to defend



President Donald Trump filed a lawsuit against JPMorgan Chase and its CEO Jamie Dimon, accusing the lender and Dimon of closing several of his and his companies' accounts on political grounds. MARCO BELLO/REUTERS

ourselves ... JPMC does not close accounts for political or religious reasons."

Trump has also targeted other lenders. The Trump Organization is suing credit card giant Capital One, alleging the bank closed its accounts for political reasons.



Moynihan

Trump has criticized Bank of America CEO Brian Moynihan over de-banking and told CNBC in August that the bank declined to provide Trump with an account. Large banks have consistently said they do not reject customers on political or other belief-based grounds. Trump also last year attacked Goldman Sachs CEO David Solomon for the bank's bearish stance on tariffs.

Bank of America and Goldman declined to comment. Capital One did not immediately provide comment. "Banks probably will be more cautious moving forward after seeing this reaction, seeing that they're no longer just under threat of regulatory retaliation, but also lawsuits," said Nicholas Anthony, a policy analyst at Washington think tank,

the Cato Institute.

Advocacy efforts

Wall Street banks have expanded their Washington advocacy operations and hired lobbyists close to the White House. The eight biggest lenders boosted their combined lobbying spending by almost 40% to \$12 million in the fourth quarter of 2025, compared with the same period in 2024, according to a Reuters analysis of disclosures. They lobbied Congress, the White House and other federal agencies on issues ranging from credit card swipe fees to crypto legislation.

The Washington-based Financial Services Forum, which represents those banks, also in December launched the American Growth Alliance, a nonprofit that it said would spend tens of millions of dollars advocating for "commonsense" policies to grow the economy. The Forum and American Growth Alliance declined to comment.

"The biggest question that remains is what steps will be necessary to navigate an administration that has shown a

willingness to intervene aggressively and unpredictably in the sector," said Myra Thomas, banking analyst at eMarketer.

Capital win still expected

To be sure, Trump administration regulators are set to hand big banks massive capital relief, which by some estimates could free up as much as \$200 billion in cash. Lenders have also cheered regulators' shift to overhaul bank supervision, and their support of big mergers.

When Dimon convened financial CEOs at a conference at JPMorgan's brand-new New York skyscraper in December, executives were optimistic that those changes would unleash more profits, according to a person who attended the event. "There's just a much more rational approach on focusing on the big, important matters," Citizens Financial CEO Bruce Van Saun said on Jan. 21, referring to supervision. "That's a refreshing change."

The industry still expects to lock in capital relief, said another bank CEO who declined to be identified discussing regulatory issues. Those changes continue to make bank stocks attractive, investors said.

"This case is not likely to move that needle much," said Brian Mulberry, senior client portfolio manager at Zacks Investment Management, which owns JPMorgan shares.

Indeed, bank shares have kept pace with markets under Trump's presidency.

However, the president's whipsawing financial policies, some of which are also being driven by his need to address voter cost-of-living concerns ahead of this year's congressional elections, are souring the mood. Banks were blindsided by the credit card proposal, and have since been trying to help shape Trump's affordability agenda. Some executives are also frustrated that banks are losing ground to fintechs and crypto firms favored by Trump's inner circle, according to three industry executives.

"I don't think Trump has a lot of love for the big banks," said Brian Jacobsen, chief economic strategist at Annex Wealth Management.

Pretti remembered by teachers in Wisconsin

Nadia Scharf

Green Bay Press-Gazette
USA TODAY NETWORK — WISCONSIN

The death of former Green Bay Preble High School student Alex Pretti has hung heavy in the Wisconsin air since Jan. 24, the day a federal immigration officer fatally shot him during a protest in Minneapolis.

What would've been a normal school board meeting Jan. 26 opened instead with a speech by its board president, honoring Pretti as a "conscientious, civic-minded individual."

"His life reflects the values that we strive to instill in our students," James Lyerly said. "Compassion, service and responsibility to others."

It was a life and legacy that several former teachers also reflected on during the meeting.

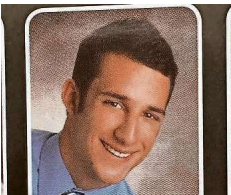
Pretti, who was living in Minneapolis and working as a nurse, graduated high school in 2006. He was deeply involved in the performing arts during high school. At the board meeting, seven people spoke for about 30 minutes during the open forum portion of the meeting. They memorialized the singer, helper and leader they knew in school.

Pretti was the "personification of kindness," said Carol Miller, former Preble musical director. As a senior, he went out of his way to welcome underclassmen, she said.

"We will always value his leadership and spread some of the kindness that he gave to others," Miller said. "That's the ripple effect. And I think that's where his legacy therein lies."

Susan McAllister can still see Pretti, who was her music student for all four years of high school, standing in the bass section of the choir. She saw her music students a "whole lot more" than their parents did, she said. She got to know them and love them; once they're "your kid," they're always your kid, McAllister said.

"My heart is broken under Alex's death. And of course, like everybody else, I am deeply angry," McAllister said. "But I am also so, so proud of the young man I knew."



Alex Pretti was a 2006 graduate of Green Bay Preble High School. Pretti was fatally shot by federal law enforcement during a protest on Jan. 24 in Minneapolis.

PROVIDED BY GREEN BAY SCHOOL DISTRICT

Karie Green, an associate director of the Green Bay Boys Choir, remembered his "revolutionary" kindness.

She also read a statement from Susan Carlson, a former teacher who taught Pretti in middle school.

"At his core, Alex was a helper," Carlson wrote. "I'm not one bit surprised that his final act on Earth was to help a woman who had been viciously thrown to the ground, and that his last words were, 'Are you OK?'"

Before the school board meeting, Preble teacher Michael Wittig, who had Pretti in U.S. history class in 2005, remembered him as a curious student who loved to be challenged. He knew how important it was to nurture relationships.

After the teachers spoke, Superintendent Vicki Bayer took the floor. At the end of a district news update, she paused, and photos of the makeshift memorial to Pretti at Preble came on the screen.

She and other administrators had gone to Preble to talk with students, Bayer said. In the conversation, the students had demonstrated all the skills the district wants to instill in its students — the skills Lyerly said Pretti showed.

"What they had to say — you would've been so proud," Bayer said.

Notice of Proposed Rate Changes

To Our Customers:

National Fuel Gas Distribution Corporation (National Fuel or Company) is filing a request with the Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission (PUC) to increase your gas distribution rates as of March 29, 2026. This notice describes the Company's rate request, the PUC's role, and what actions you can take.

The Company has requested a base rate increase of \$19.7 million per year. This filing also includes a request for approval of the following alternative rate mechanisms in accordance with 66 Pa. C.S. § 1330.1) Permanent Weather Normalization Adjustment; 2) Energy Efficiency (EE) pilot program for an additional \$0.7 million per year to be recovered from residential customers through a separate rider. Additionally, the Company has proposed the reactivation of the OPEB rider I surcredit to refund \$7.2 million for customer bill relief.

If the Company's entire request is approved, the total bill for a residential customer using 80 ccf per month would increase from \$83.49 to \$90.28 per month, or by 8.1% including the proposed EE rider. From \$83.49 to \$88.44 per month, or by 5.9% when including the proposed OPEB rider I surcredit extension.

The total bill for a small commercial customer using 257 ccf per month would increase from \$183.24 to \$201.21 per month or by 9.8%. From \$193.24 to \$193.81 per month, or by 0.3% when including the proposed OPEB rider I surcredit extension.

The total bill for an intermediate volume industrial customer using 602 Mcf monthly would increase from \$1,905.13 to \$2,039.29 per month, or by 7.0%. From \$1,905.13 to \$1,984.36 per month, or by 4.2% when including the proposed OPEB rider I surcredit extension.

To find out your customer class or how the requested increase may affect your gas bill, contact National Fuel at 1-800-365-3234. The rates requested by the Company may be found in Supplement No. 294 to Tariff Gas - Pa, PUC, No. 3. You may examine the material filed with the PUC, which explains the requested increase and the reasons for it. A copy of this material is kept at National Fuel's Consumer Assistance Centers. Upon request, the Company will send you a statement of reasons for Supplement No. 294 explaining why the Company requested the rate increase.

The state agency which approves rates for public utilities is the PUC. The PUC will examine the requested rate increase and can prevent existing rates from changing until it investigates and/or holds hearings on the request. The Company must prove that the requested rates are reasonable. After examining the evidence, the PUC may grant all, some, or none of the request or may reduce existing rates.

The PUC may change the amount of the rate increase or decrease requested by the utility for each customer class. As a result, the rate charged to you may be different than the rate requested by the Company and shown above.

There are three ways to challenge a company's request to change its rates:

- You can file a formal complaint. If you want a hearing before a judge, you must file a formal complaint.** By filing a formal complaint, you assure yourself the opportunity to take part in hearings about the rate increase request. All complaints should be filed with the PUC before March 29, 2026. If no formal complaints are filed, the Commission may grant all, some or none of the request without holding a hearing before a judge.
- You can send us a letter explaining why you object to the requested rate increase.** Sometimes there is information in these letters that makes us aware of problems with the Company's service or management. This information can be helpful when we investigate the rate request. **Send your letter or request for a formal complaint form to the Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission, Post Office Box 3265, Harrisburg, PA 17105-3265.**
- You can be a witness at a public input hearing.** Public input hearings are held if the Commission opens an investigation of the company's rate increase request and if there is a large number of customers interested in the case. At these hearings you have the opportunity to present your views in person to the PUC judge hearing the case and the Company representatives. All testimony given "under oath" becomes part of the official rate case record. These hearings are held in the service area of the Company.

For more information, call the PUC at 1-800-692-7380. You may leave your name and address so you can be notified of any public input hearings that may be scheduled in this case.

STATE OF NEW YORK }

} SS.

COUNTY OF Albany }

I, David J. Worden, duly swear that I am employed with New York Press Service, Inc.

representing the Beaver County Times/Ellwood City Ledger, a newspaper publication based in Beaver (Beaver County), Pennsylvania, as the Acting Representative

and further swear that the National Fuel ad

ran in the Beaver County Times/Ellwood City Ledger on the following date(s):

Date(s): January 29, 2026



(signature)

Sworn to before me on this 25th day of February, 2026



Notary's signature

Tamara Coons
Notary Public, State of New York
Reg. No. 01Co0037516
Qualified in Albany County
Commission Expires 05/16/2029

AFFIDAVIT OF INSERTION

Please Fill out Information Below:

(Note: Any line marked with an asterisk (*) must be filled in completely & accurately)

***Name of Publication: The Bradford Era**

***City, State: Bradford, PA**

***Advertiser Name: National Fuel**

Insertion Order #:57086

***Date of Insertion:1/29/26**

Caption:January 2026

***Ad Size: 3x10.5**

***Total # Inserted: 3276**

Please return completed & signed affidavit to any of the following:

E-mail: tearsheets@mansimedia.com

Fax: (717) 703-3022

Mail:

MANSI Media – Tearsheet Dept.
3899 N. Front St.
Harrisburg, PA 17110

My signature verifies that this ad was inserted as scheduled according to the above specifications.

Jill Henry

Signature

2/12/26

Date

Jill Henry

Name (Please Print)

Please note, this form does **NOT need to be notarized, unless you are told otherwise by a MANSI Media representative.*

Business

Stocks hold near their all-time high while the dollar's value stabilizes



AP Photo/Cheyenne Mumphrey, File
A container of ByHeart baby formula, which was recently recalled by ByHeart, in Flagstaff, Ariz., on Wednesday, Nov. 12, 2025.

Two companies supplied dried milk powder linked to botulism in ByHeart baby formula

(AP) — Two suppliers provided dried milk powder that could be a culprit in the outbreak of botulism tied to ByHeart infant formula that has sickened dozens of babies, The Associated Press has learned.

Organic whole milk powder that tested positive for the type of bacteria that causes botulism was made from milk provided by Organic West Milk Inc., a California company, and processed at a Dairy Farmers of America plant in Fallon, Nevada, company officials said.

The source of the contamination, however, is not yet known. Both companies and the U.S. Food and Drug Administration emphasized that the investigation into the unprecedented outbreak that has sickened 51 babies in 19 states is ongoing.

Bill Van Ryn, an owner of Organic West Milk, said he learned last week that a sample of his company's milk powder collected by the FDA had tested positive for the germ that causes botulism.

But that doesn't mean his product is the source of the outbreak, Van Ryn stressed.

"Nothing has been proven about our milk yet," he said, adding: "Something happened in the process of converting the milk to powder and then in converting it to baby formula."

Organic West, which supplies milk from 55 farmers, didn't sell organic whole milk powder to any infant formula maker besides ByHeart, Van Ryn said. The milk company has halted sales of the powder used in any product intended for babies and children until more is known about the source of the outbreak, he added.

Powdered milk is made by pasteurizing liquid milk, concentrating it through evaporation and spraying it into a hot chamber, which causes the water to evaporate and leave behind fine, dry milk particles.

The Dairy Farmers of

America is a global dairy cooperative. Its plant in Nevada processes about 1.5 million pounds of raw milk daily into 250,000 pounds of whole milk powder.

The Dairy Farmers of America said in a statement that Organic West was the source of milk for the sample that FDA collected that tested positive for botulism bacteria. The milk was processed into powder that met all required tests, the company said. Organic West subsequently sold the milk powder to ByHeart.

"Manufacturers of end-use consumer products have a responsibility to properly process ingredients to ensure product safety," the statement read.

FDA officials said on Jan. 23 that a sample of organic whole milk powder collected from a supplier had tested positive for the botulism bacteria, though the agency didn't identify the supplier. Tests showed that sample was a genetic match to a sample taken from a finished can of ByHeart formula.

The agency also found the bacteria in an unopened can of formula matched a sample from a sick baby — and it also matched contamination detected in samples of milk powder used to make ByHeart formula and collected and tested by the company.

ByHeart officials declined to identify the source of those milk powder samples. The infant formula company has recalled all its products.

Botulism spores are common in the environment and can be found in most foods at very low levels, said Kristin Schill, a botulism expert at the University of Wisconsin-Madison.

Healthy adults consume Clostridium botulinum spores every day without becoming sick. But babies have immature guts that may not be able to prevent the spores from germinating and growing. Once they do, the spores produce a toxin that can cause paralysis and death.

By STAN CHOE
AP Business Writer

NEW YORK — Few ripples washed through Wall Street Wednesday after the Federal Reserve decided to hold its main interest rate steady, just like investors expected.

The U.S. stock and bond markets each remained at a virtual standstill, while the U.S. dollar stabilized following its sharp recent slide. Some of the strongest action remained in the gold market, where the metal's price jumped to another record.

The S&P 500 was nearly unchanged and inched down by less than 0.1% from its all-time high. The Dow Jones Industrial Average added 12 points, or less than 0.1%, and the Nasdaq composite rose 0.2%.

Seagate Technology jumped 19.1% for the biggest gain in the S&P 500 after the seller of hard drives and other data-storage products reported a bigger profit for the latest quarter than analysts expected. CEO Dave Mosley cited demand driven by artificial-intelligence applications, among other things.

Nvidia, the stock that's become the poster child of the AI boom, climbed 1.6% and was the strongest single force lifting the S&P 500. It also benefited from an encouraging report from ASML, whose machinery helps make chips.

The Dutch company gave a forecast for revenue in 2026 that topped analysts' expectations, and CEO Christophe Fouquet said customers have been notably more encouraged about "the sustainability" of AI demand. That helped allay concerns that the AI frenzy has gone overboard and created a potential bubble that may burst.

On the losing end of Wall Street was Amphenol, whose stock tumbled 12.2% even though it reported a stronger profit than analysts had forecast. Expectations were high for the maker of fiber-optic connectors and other high-tech equipment after its stock came into the day with a surge of 23% for the year so far.

Companies across the market are under pressure to deliver solid growth in profits following record-setting runs for their stock prices. Stock prices tend to follow the path of corporate profits over the long term, and earnings need to rise to quiet criticism that stock prices have grown too expensive.

Apple slipped 0.7% ahead of its profit report coming on Thursday. Because of its immense



AP Photo/Richard Drew
The Fearless Girl statue stands in the snow in front of the New York Stock Exchange, Monday.

size, it was the single heaviest weight on the S&P 500.

All told, the S&P 500 edged down by 0.57 to 6,978.03 points. The Dow Jones Industrial Average rose 12.19 to 49,015.60, and the Nasdaq composite rose 40.35 to 23,857.45.

In the foreign-exchange market, the U.S. dollar stabilized as Treasury Secretary Scott Bessent said in an interview on CNBC that the U.S. government is not intervening in the currency market and continues to want a "strong dollar."

The dollar climbed against the euro, British pound and other rivals, a day after an index measuring the U.S. dollar's value against several of its peers dropped to its weakest level since early 2022. It also climbed against the Japanese yen, which had jumped earlier in the week with rumors that U.S. and Japanese officials may intervene in the market to prop up the yen's value.

The dollar has been generally weakening since President Donald Trump entered the White House last year, and its descent accelerated after Trump

threatened tariffs earlier this month against several European countries that he said opposed his taking control of Greenland.

Such threats, along with worries about risks like the U.S. government's heavy debt, have periodically pushed global investors to step away from U.S. markets, a move that's come to be called "Sell America."

In the bond market, Treasury yields held relatively steady following the Fed's widely expected move to hold its main interest rate steady.

The Fed cut rates several times last year in hopes of shoring up the job market, but inflation remains stubbornly above its 2% target. Lower interest rates could worsen inflation while giving the economy a boost. Lower rates could also further undercut the U.S. dollar's value, which would help U.S. exporters. Trump has been pushing aggressively for lower rates.

The Fed's chair, Jerome Powell, said that interest rates look to be "in a good place" at the moment, giving the central bank time to wait and see how things progress. In the



Local oil purchasers increase prices

Two local oil purchasers have increased the price they will pay for Penn grade crude oil. Effective Tuesday, American Refining Group and Ergon Oil Purchasing increased their prices by \$1.76 to \$58.39.

meantime, "the economy has once again surprised us with its strength," he said.

The yield on the 10-year Treasury remained at 4.24%, where it was last Tuesday.

As global investors have stepped away from the U.S. dollar due to political instability and other worries, prices have surged for gold and other metals as investors searched for something safer to own. Gold's price topped \$5,000 per ounce this week for the first time, and it added another 4.3% to settle at \$5,340.20.

In stock markets abroad, indexes sank in Europe following better performances in Asia.

South Korea's Kospi rose 1.7% to another record, thanks in part to a 5.1% leap for chip company SK Hynix, while Hong Kong's Hang Seng rallied 2.6%.

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The Company has requested a base rate increase of \$19.7 million per year. This filing also includes a request for approval of the following alternative rate mechanisms in accordance with 66 Pa. C.S. § 1330.1: Permanent Weather Normalization Adjustment; 2) Energy Efficiency (EE) pilot program for an additional \$0.7 million per year to be recovered from residential customers through a separate rider. Additionally, the Company has proposed the reactivation of the OPEB rider I surcredit to refund \$7.2 million for customer bill relief.

If the Company's entire request is approved, the total bill for a residential customer using 80 ccf per month would increase from \$83.49 to \$90.28 per month, or by 8.1% including the proposed EE rider, from \$83.49 to \$88.44 per month, or by 5.9% when including the proposed OPEB rider I surcredit extension.

The total bill for a small commercial customer using 257 ccf per month would increase from \$189.24 to \$201.21 per month or by 6.5%. From \$189.24 to \$198.11 per month, or by 5.3% when including the proposed OPEB rider I surcredit extension.

The total bill for an intermediate volume industrial customer using 802 Mcf monthly would increase from \$1,905.13 to \$2,039.29 per month, or by 7.0%. From \$1,905.13 to \$1,984.36 per month, or by 4.2% when including the proposed OPEB rider I surcredit extension.

To find out your customer class or how the requested increase may affect your gas bill, contact National Fuel at 1-800-365-3234. The rates requested by the Company may be found in Supplement No. 294 to Tariff Gas - Pa. P.U.C. No. 9. You may examine the material filed with the PUC, which explains the requested increase and the reasons for it. A copy of this material is kept at National Fuel's Consumer Assistance Centers. Upon request, the Company will send you a statement of reasons for Supplement No. 294 explaining why the Company requested the rate increase.

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The PUC may change the amount of the rate increase or decrease requested by the utility for each customer class. As a result, the rate charged to you may be different than the rate requested by the Company and shown above.

There are three ways to challenge a company's request to change its rates:

- You can file a formal complaint. If you want a hearing before a judge, you must file a formal complaint.** By filing a formal complaint, you assure yourself the opportunity to take part in hearings about the rate increase request. All complaints should be filed with the PUC before March 29, 2026. If no formal complaints are filed, the Commission may grant all, some or none of the request without holding a hearing before a judge.
- You can send us a letter explaining why you object to the requested rate increase.** Sometimes there is information in these letters that makes us aware of problems with the Company's service or management. This information can be helpful when we investigate the rate request. **Send your letter or request for a formal complaint form to the Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission, Post Office Box 3265, Harrisburg, PA 17105-3265.**
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AUTO

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BUSINESS

LIFE

MEDICARE

WILLIAM MCKEAN AGENCY

10 DERRICK ROAD - BRADFORD
(814) 368-6980
williamsmckeanagency.com

Proof of Publication of Notice in Butler Eagle

Under Act No. 587, Approved May 16, 1929

State of Pennsylvania,
County of Butler.

Christina L Moss Of the Eagle Printing Company, Inc., of the County and State aforesaid, being duly sworn, deposes and says that the BUTLER EAGLE, a newspaper of general circulation published at 514 West Wayne Street, City of Butler, County and State aforesaid, was established 1869, since which date the BUTLER EAGLE has been regularly issued in said County, and that the printed notice or publication attached hereto is exactly the same as was printed and published in the regular editions and issues of the said BUTLER EAGLE on the following dates, viz.

_____ and the
29th Day of January A.D. 2026

Affiant further deposes that the Ad Taker is duly authorized by the EAGLE PRINTING COMPANY, a corporation, publisher of said BUTLER EAGLE, a newspaper of general circulation, to verify the foregoing statement under oath, and Affiant is not interested in the subject matter of the aforesaid notice or advertisement, and that all allegations in the foregoing statements as to time, place and character of publication are true.

Copy of Notice or Publication on Page 2

Christina L. Moss

Butler Eagle

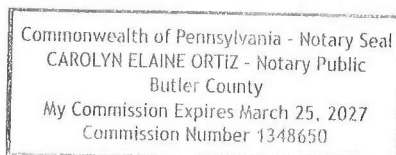
Sworn to and subscribed before me this 29th

Day of January 2026

Carolyn E. Ortiz

Notary Public

My Commission Expires:



Statement of Advertising Costs

Mansi Tearsheets

c/o Mansi Media

4000 Crums Mill Road, Suite 101

Harrisburg, PA 17112

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For more information, call the PUC at 1-800-692-7380. You may leave your name and address so you can be notified of any public input hearings that may be scheduled in this case.

2 more charged following last week's shooting in Butler

By Steve Ferris
Eagle Staff Writer

Butler city police filed charges against two more people in connection with a Jan. 19 shooting that damaged two East Wayne Street apartments.

James M. Dent, 22, of Butler, and Shaena R. Hale, 29, of Tyrone, Pa., were charged Monday. Kaleb G. Beish, 22, of Duncansville, Pa., was charged Jan. 19, the day of the shooting.

Police accuse Dent of driving Beish just after 1 a.m. to the 100 block of East Wayne Street, where Beish got out of a vehicle and argued with one of four people who lives in an apartment before firing gunshots into the apartment and an adjacent apartment. Dent said he parked around the corner from the apartments and did not see Beish fire the shots, but heard the shots seconds before Beish ran back to the vehicle, police said in an affidavit.

The man Beish argued with told police Beish accused him of beating up a juvenile before drawing a hand-

gun from his waistband. The man retreated into his apartment then heard four or five gunshots. As the vehicle pulled away, the man said he heard several more gunshots, according to the affidavit. Police said they found broken glass from the entry door and multiple bullet holes in the glass window of a door behind the entry door.

A man living in the adjacent apartment told police he heard the initial gunshots, looked out the window and saw the vehicle driving away and heard several more shots, according to the affidavit. Police said they recovered three .380-caliber shell casings from the street and a slug from a bedroom.

On Thursday, Beish made a call from Butler County Prison to Hale saying there would be no evidence to convict him if the four people said he didn't do it, according to Hale's affidavit.

On Monday, one of the four other people who lives in the first apartment that was shot went to the police station and reported Dent and Hale

invited her to Dent's home to talk about the incident. During the conversation, Hale offered to pay her \$1,000 if she didn't testify against Beish, according to the affidavit.

Police charged Dent with four felony counts of discharging a firearm into an occupied structure and conspiracy to commit aggravated assault; one felony count of intimidating a witness or victim and conspiracy to commit aggravated assault; and four misdemeanor counts of reckless endangerment. He is being held in the county jail in lieu of \$50,000 bail.

Hale is facing a felony charge of intimidating a witness or victim and is being held in the county jail in lieu of \$10,000 bail.

Police charged Beish with four felony counts of discharging a firearm into an occupied structure, one count of felony aggravated assault and four misdemeanor counts of reckless endangerment. He is being held in the county jail in lieu of \$250,000 bail.

LOCAL

Transit authority modifies service

Butler Transit Authority will offer modified routes starting Thursday through Monday due to ongoing challenges safely navigating city streets.

"As previously communicated, many city streets have been reduced to a single lane and are too narrow for buses to operate safely. Additionally, accumulated snow at intersections is limiting buses' ability to make safe turns," the authority said Wednesday.

Local routes 1, 3 and 5 will have temporary changes to some of their stops. Route 3 will also not service seven of its stops.

"Route 2 remains suspended due to extremely narrow streets that do not allow for safe bus operation," the authority said.

All commuter routes will return to normal operation.

A full list of route modifications and more

updates can be found at butlertransit.org.

Butler man charged with armed robbery

A Butler man is accused of mugging someone while possibly carrying a firearm Saturday on North Main Street near its intersection with Penn Street in the city.

Andrew Lawrence Martin, 36, was charged Sunday by city police with felony robbery following the incident.

Police responded at 8:45 p.m. to the 300 block of North Main Street for a reported disturbance. Police arrested and spoke with a person who said they were approached by a man wearing white pants and a black puffy coat with their hands in their jacket pockets acting like he had a firearm and demanding money.

Police found Martin a block away wearing the same clothing as the person described. Police also confirmed his identity using surveil-

lance cameras.

Martin is being held in Butler County Prison on a \$100,000 bail. His preliminary hearing is scheduled for 1:15 p.m. Monday before District Judge William Fullerton.

State plans 1,200 truck parking spots

Pennsylvania is looking to add 1,200 truck parking spots statewide before the end of 2026. According to a news release from the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation, the state has opened 339 of the spots since October 2025.

A pair of the recently added truck parking areas are located at a weigh station along the northbound and southbound sides on Interstate 79 near Cranberry Township.

Five truck parking spots are planned to be added in Butler County before the end of the year, adding a total of 20 spaces. All of these are to be located along Interstate 79 exit ramps.

POLICE REPORTS

Butler Twp

The following items were collected from various police departments and district courts:

Butler

Jan. 6 — Jamie C. Wright, 50, of Butler, was charged with two misdemeanor DUI counts and one misdemeanor count each of controlled substance possession and drug paraphernalia possession following a Nov. 15 crash. Police said Wright had miscellaneous pills, a crack pipe with burned residue and tested positive for cocaine.

Jan. 6 — Austin Scott, 32, of Butler, was charged with one misdemeanor count each of theft, disorderly conduct and drug paraphernalia possession following a Jan. 5 incident. Police said Scott was kicking a door, yelling outside a residence, stole medication and had a glass smoking pipe.

Jan. 12 — John Jameel Jackson, 48, of Butler, was charged with misdemeanor drug paraphernalia possession following a Jan. 8 incident. Police said Jackson had a burned glass smoking device.

Jan. 7 — Albert John Mastrocceas Jr., 41, of Butler, was charged with misdemeanor retail theft following a Dec. 23 incident. Police said Mastrocceas stole almost \$400 in merchandise from Walmart.

Middlesex Twp

Jan. 7 — Sarah Cather Eshenbaugh, 39, of Sarver, was charged with two misdemeanor DUI counts following a Dec. 25 crash. Police said Eshenbaugh had a blood alcohol content of 0.186%. The legal limit in Pennsylvania is 0.08%.

State police, Butler

Jan. 7 — Hunter Michael Frantz, 24, of Canonsburg, was charged with two misdemeanor DUI counts following a Nov. 21 crash in Slippery Rock. Police said Frantz had a blood alcohol content of 0.183%. The legal limit in Pennsylvania is 0.08%.

Jan. 7 — William A. Bieber Jr., 51, of Prospect, was charged with two misdemeanor DUI counts following a Jan. 3 traffic stop in Prospect. Police said Bieber

had a blood alcohol content of 0.159%. The legal limit in Pennsylvania is 0.08%.

Jan. 7 — Philip Chris Mignaneli, 38, of Zelienople, was charged with two misdemeanor DUI counts and misdemeanor marijuana possession following a Nov. 26 traffic stop in Zelienople. Police said Mignaneli tested positive for marijuana and had marijuana in his possession.

Jan. 12 — Elijah Aaron Huellen, 36, of Pittsburgh, was charged with one misdemeanor count each of identity theft and theft following a Nov. 21 incident in Jefferson Township. Police said Huellen purchased electronics using a company Amazon account.

State police, Kittanning

Jan. 7 — Cody Allen Montgomery, 37, of Worthington, was charged with one misdemeanor count each of controlled substance possession and drug paraphernalia possession following an Oct. 13 traffic stop in Buffalo Township. Police said Montgomery had two bricks of suspected heroin.

Moraine Pointe Plaza wins assessment appeal

County balances 2025 budget

By Steve Ferris
Eagle Staff Writer

Balancing the 2025 county budget will require less money from the fund balance than officials predicted.

Budget director Ann Brown told county commissioners Wednesday that \$3.5 million to \$4 million from the fund balance will be needed to balance last year's budget.

The commissioners originally allocated \$7.8 million from the fund balance to balance the budget. The difference between the amount that will be used and the budgeted amount will remain in the fund balance for the 2026 budget, Brown said.

The 2025, 2026 and 2027 budgets of the county, Butler Area School District and Butler Township will suffer a combined loss of \$488,329 due to the settlement of the property value assessment appeal of one parcel in the Moraine Pointe Plaza shopping center.

The commissioners ratified the settlement with plaza owner Oxford Development Company Moraine for a 65.78-acre parcel at 300 Moraine Pointe Plaza.

Oxford appealed the assessed value in October 2024 to the county board of assessment appeals, which decided no change would be made, and the assessed value

would remain \$4.1 million and the fair market value would remain \$68.3 million for 2025.

That decision was appealed to Butler County Common Pleas Court, but the county, district and township negotiated the settlement. The district and township previously approved the settlement.

The settlement reduces the 2025 assessed value to \$3.5 million and the fair market value to \$59.2 million. The 2026 assessed value to \$3 million and the fair market value to \$50 million, and the 2027 assessed value to \$2.4 million and the fair market value to \$41 million.

According to the county property and revenue department, the county will lose \$15,084 in real estate tax revenue in 2025, \$30,416 this year and \$45,336 in 2027 for a total loss of \$90,835.

The district's tax revenue losses will be \$39,865 in 2025, \$120,715 this year and \$179,921 in 2027 for a total loss of \$360,502.

The township's losses in tax revenue will be \$6,142 in 2025, \$12,386 this year and \$18,461 in 2027 for a total loss of \$36,990.

Leslie Osche, commissioners chairwoman, said the loss in revenue is significant.

"It was so significant that we actually asked for additional information from the appraiser, and had an opportunity to sit with the appraiser and to hear some of the

issues and challenges," she said.

Solicitor Julie Graham said representatives from all three taxing bodies met with the appraiser.

"This is not entered into lightly," Graham said.

Osche said the appeal and settlement involve one parcel at the plaza, and the area where larger businesses like Giant Eagle and Lowe's are located are not part of it. Oxford could appeal the assessment of the other parcel, but agreed not to appeal the assessment settlement of 300 Moraine Pointe Plaza through 2027, Graham said.

"You can see how these appeals play into the discussion we had when we were doing our 2026 budget," Commissioner Kim Geyer. "This is just one of the many pieces, multi-factors that play into a county government having a deficit."

To eliminate an anticipated deficit and balance the 2026 budget, the commissioners said in December that \$12.90 million will be used from the \$21 million fund balance.

The commissioners unanimously voted Dec. 17 to adopt the \$249.8 million budget, which includes an \$84.60 million general fund and an \$8.09 million fund balance.

Commissioner Kevin Boozel said assessment appeal losses level gains in tax revenue from growth in the county.

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Please Fill out Information Below:

Name of Publication: The Clarion News

City, State: Clarion, Pa 16214

Client name: National Fuel

Insertion Order 57090

Date of Insertion: 01/29/26

Caption: National Fuel Jan. 2026

Ad Size: 3 x 10.5

Please Return Completed Affidavit to:

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1/29/26

Date

Robert Gress

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AHN's 'Alcohol Bridge Clinic' transforms treatment of alcohol-associated liver disease

Multidisciplinary clinic shows early success in helping patients achieve sobriety and reduced health care utilization since launching one year ago

PITTSBURGH — Allegheny Health Network (AHN)'s innovative 'Alcohol Bridge Clinic' has demonstrated remarkable success since launching last fall, improving sobriety for patients with liver disease and alcohol use disorder (AUD), and significantly reducing related hospitalizations. The clinic, which integrates transplant hepatology and addiction medicine, is designed to improve outcomes for patients suffering from Alcohol-Associated Liver Disease (ALD).

'ALD' refers to a group of liver diseases caused or worsened by excessive alcohol consumption. Various treatments may be used depending on the acuity of the disease, with the most severe cases requiring liver transplant. While lifelong abstinence is recommended to prevent liver damage from pro-

gressing, many patients often struggle to stop drinking.

Traditionally, ALD has been treated primarily by hepatologists, but growing evidence suggests that a multidisciplinary approach, concurrently addressing AUD, leads to superior patient outcomes. The AHN Alcohol Bridge Clinic brings together hepatology and addiction medicine to meet this critical need.

Since launching last year, the clinic has provided care for dozens of patients. AHN hepatologist and gastroenterologist Nabeeha Mohy-ud-din, MD, recently presented outcomes data collected among 32 of the clinic's patients at the American Association for the Study of Liver Diseases' annual meeting.

Among the findings, 85 percent of patients reported no or decreased alcohol use at the six-month follow-up, with many prescribed medications for AUD. The clinic also reduced hospitalizations by a remarkable 89 percent during the follow-up period. Prior to entering the clinic, 60 percent of

patients had been hospitalized within 30 days, and 84 percent had an average of three emergency department visits in the prior year. After receiving care at the clinic, only two patients required hospitalization.

"Alcohol associated liver disease cannot be successfully treated without addressing alcohol use disorder," said Dr. Nabeeha Mohy-ud-din. "Our integrated approach, combining expert liver care with dedicated addiction medicine, is proving to be a highly effective model for addressing the complex challenges of ALD."

The clinic is the first of its kind in Western Pennsylvania. While currently based at AHN's Federal North outpatient facility, clinicians hope to progressively expand the clinic's services across AHN's footprint.

"We are incredibly proud of the positive impact the Alcohol Bridge Clinic has had on our patients' lives, leading to the more sustainable and meaningful recovery they deserve," said Mark Guy, MD, AHN addiction medicine.

Chess tournament being held Feb. 28

DUBOIS — The DuBois Knights of Columbus, Council #519, will hold a free (no entry fee) chess tournament on Saturday, February 28, starting at 11 a.m.

The contest will take place at St. Michael's Church at 15 Robinson Street in DuBois.

There will be three to

four rounds using a Swiss scoring system. The tournament is non-rated, and lunch is provided for the players at no charge. All grade school level players will receive a chess pin at arrival. Awards are given to winners and runners-up in each age grouping (grades 1-5, middle school grades 6-8, high school, and adult).

It is recommended that players bring their own chess sets, and clocks are optional.

It is highly encouraged that all participants RSVP to the Tournament Director with a text/voice message or email at 814-591-9485 and or cesnar2@comcast.net. Any and all questions are welcome.

Area schools list menus

CLARION — Clarion County schools announce the following breakfast and lunch menus. Unless otherwise indicated, all breakfasts include fruit and/or juice and milk, and all lunches include milk.

Clarion Area

Feb. 2: Elementary, Mini French toast or cereals, assorted fruit, 100-percent fruit juice choice, milk choice. High school, Pancake breakfast stick or mini pancakes or pick one selection, assorted fruit, 100-percent fruit juice choice, milk choice.

Feb. 3: Elementary, Bacon egg and cheese croissant or pick one selection, assorted fruit, 100-percent fruit juice choice, milk choice. High School, same as elementary.

Feb. 4: Elementary, Breakfast pizza or pick one selection, assorted fruit, 100-percent fruit juice choice, milk choice. High School, Sausage egg and cheese croissant or pick one selection, assorted fruit, 100-percent fruit juice choice, milk choice.

Feb. 5: Elementary, Pancake breakfast stick or mini pancakes or pick one selection, assorted fruit, 100-percent fruit juice choice, milk choice. High school, Ham egg and cheese croissant or pick one selection, assorted fruit, 100-percent fruit juice choice, milk choice.

Feb. 6: Elementary, Freshly baked donut or whole grain muffin choice, assorted fruit, 100-percent fruit juice choice, milk choice. High School, same as elementary.

Feb. 2: Elementary, Hot dog on bun or BBQ rib sandwich, spiral fries, crunchy carrots, assorted fruit choice, milk choice. High school, Hamburger or cheeseburger or BBQ Rib on bun, potatoes au gratin, lettuce and tomato, assorted fruit choice,

milk choice.

Feb. 3: Elementary, Sweet and sour chicken, fried rice, peas and carrots, apple slices and strawberries, milk choice. High School, Mashed potato bowl with chicken and whole grain roll, corn, blueberries, 100-percent fruit juice, milk choice.

Feb. 4: Elementary, Max breaded cheese sticks with Marinara sauce, garden salad with ranch dressing, peaches and 100-percent fruit juice choice and milk choice. High School, same as Elementary.

Feb. 5: Elementary, Chicken tenders with nachos and cheese, crunchy vegetables with ranch, assorted fruit choice, milk choice. High School, Buffalo chicken dip with tortilla chips, crunchy vegetables with ranch, chick peas, assorted fruit choice, milk choice.

Feb. 6: Elementary, Soft pretzel and cheese sauce with string cheese stick garden salad with ranch dressing, 100-percent fruit juice, Rice Krispies Treat, milk choice. High School, General Tso's Chicken, fried

rice, peas and carrots, strawberries and pears, churros, milk choice.

Union

Feb. 2: Elementary, Churros, High school, Mini pancakes.

Feb. 3: Elementary, Assorted Pop Tarts, High School, Churros.

Feb. 4: Elementary, Mini pancakes, High School, Mini filled bagels.

Feb. 5: Elementary, Mini cinnis, High School, Assorted donut holes.

Feb. 6: Elementary, Breakfast pizza, High School, Breakfast sandwich.

Feb. 2: Elementary, Popcorn chicken bowl, High School, French Toast sticks with sausage.

Feb. 3: Elementary, Mini pizza bagels, High School, Turkey sandwich on a pretzel bun.

Feb. 4: Elementary, Hoagie, High School, Pizza sandwich.

Feb. 5: Elementary, Spaghetti and meat balls, High School, Buffalo chicken salad.

Feb. 6: Elementary, Stuffed crust pizza, High School, Classic pizza.

Looking back in time

Wintry weather, snow and rain are here. A telephone on the farm, these days, is a greater comfort than ever...

TELEPHONE

the stores and neighbors!

The Telephone Books Are the Directory of the Nation

1930

The Clarion Democrat January 30, 1930 William Sansom, Editor

W. Harold Laughlin, the new Sheriff, has very nicely fitted himself into the place vacated by Sheriff Sloan and is performing the duties of his office with the satisfaction that was expected of him. He and Mrs. Laughlin report they have nine boarders at the county jail who are to stay for some time.

Worthy J. Sullivan, a well shooter for the Cupler Torpedo Company of Titusville was blown to bits by the explosion of 50 quarts of nitroglycerine he was taking from Titusville to a well on the Deep Hollow Road near Seneca last Monday. He had to pass over some rough road on account of a snowdrift and the nitro exploded blowing Sullivan to small fragments. He was

killed on his birthday.

Mr. James Pinks of Clarion has seven checks drawn in his favor by the Comptroller of the Currency of the United States of America, which total 17 cents. Mr. Pinks says that it is pretty hard up but as long as he has these checks he will not be broke.

Sealed bids are being requested for the new school building in St. Petersburg. The two-story building will contain 10 classrooms and a gymnasium. Work will start no later than March 1.

Fred Brown, 21, of Utica had his leg broken by a tree he was felling, kicking back as it struck the ground last Saturday. He crawled a mile before he could get help. He is in the Franklin Hospital.

The mayors of the cities of the state seem to be preparing to make another attack on the so-called "blue laws" and secure the over-

throw if possible. Mayor Blair of Oil City refuses and he is right. Better to have "blue laws" controlling the cities than blue hell and blue devils.

Several counties are receiving their school appropriation from the state. In this vicinity Clarion will get \$84,239; Forest \$22,196 and Jefferson \$105,614.

The powerful Farmington Boys basket ball team was on the warpath last Friday night to add Clarion Hi's scalp to its belt, clinching first place honors without losing a game. Clarion was unable to stop Shotts and Ochs, the strong scoring combination. Although the Clarion boys furnished the stiffest opposition Farmington has run into, they were unable to get going, losing 36-27. The Clarion girls fell to Farmington, losing 27-18.

Compiled by Randy Bartley

Notice of Proposed Rate Changes

To Our Customers:

National Fuel Gas Distribution Corporation (National Fuel or Company) is filing a request with the Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission (PUC) to increase your gas distribution rates as of March 29, 2026. This notice describes the Company's rate request, the PUC's role, and what actions you can take.

The Company has requested a base rate increase of \$18.7 million per year. This filing also includes a request for approval of the following alternative rate mechanisms in accordance with 66 Pa. C.S. § 1330-1) Permanent Weather Normalization Adjustment; 2) Energy Efficiency (EE) pilot program for an additional \$0.7 million per year to be recovered from residential customers through a separate rider. Additionally, the Company has proposed the reactivation of the OPEB rider I surcredit to refund \$7.2 million for customer bill relief.

If the Company's entire request is approved, the total bill for a residential customer using 80 ccf per month would increase from \$83.49 to \$90.28 per month, or by 8.1% including the proposed EE rider, from \$83.49 to \$88.44 per month, or by 5.9% when including the proposed OPEB rider I surcredit extension.

The total bill for a small commercial customer using 257 ccf per month would increase from \$189.24 to \$201.21 per month or by 6.5%. From \$189.24 to \$198.31 per month, or by 5.1% when including the proposed OPEB rider I surcredit extension.

The total bill for an intermediate volume industrial customer using 802 Mcf monthly would increase from \$1,905.53 to \$2,039.29 per month, or by 7.0%. From \$1,905.53 to \$1,984.36 per month, or by 4.2% when including the proposed OPEB rider I surcredit extension.

To find out your customer class or how the requested increase may affect your gas bill, contact National Fuel at 1-800-365-3234. The rates requested by the Company may be found in Supplement No. 294 to Tariff Gas - PA, PUC, No. 9. You may examine the material filed with the PUC, which explains the requested increase and the reasons for it. A copy of this material is kept at National Fuels Consumer Assistance Centers. Upon request, the Company will send you a statement of reasons for Supplement No. 294 explaining why the Company requested the rate increase.

The state agency which approves rates for public utilities is the PUC. The PUC will examine the requested rate increase and can prevent existing rates from changing until it investigates and/or holds hearings on the request. The Company must prove that the requested rates are reasonable. After examining the evidence, the PUC may grant all, some, or none of the request or may reduce existing rates.

The PUC may change the amount of the rate increase or decrease requested by the utility for each customer class. As a result, the charge to you may be different than the rate requested by the Company and shown above.

There are three ways to challenge a company's request to change its rates:

- You can file a formal complaint.** If you want a hearing before a judge, you must file a formal complaint. By filing a formal complaint, you assure yourself the opportunity to take part in hearings about the rate increase request. All complaints should be filed with the PUC before March 29, 2026. If no formal complaints are filed, the Commission may grant all, some or none of the request without holding a hearing before a judge.
- You can send us a letter explaining why you object to the requested rate increase.** Sometimes there is information in these letters that makes us aware of problems with the Company's service or management. This information can be helpful when we investigate the rate request. Send your letter or request for a formal complaint form to the Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission, Post Office Box 3265, Harrisburg, PA 17105-3265.
- You can be a witness at a public input hearing.** Public input hearings are held if the Commission opens an investigation of the company's rate increase request and if there is a large number of customers interested in the case. At these hearings you have the opportunity to present your views in person to the PUC judge hearing the case and the Company representatives. All testimony given "under oath" becomes part of the official rate case record. These hearings are held in the service area of the Company.

For more information, call the PUC at 1-800-692-7380. You may leave your name and address so you can be notified of any public input hearings that may be scheduled in this case.

High School Juniors: **APPLY FOR YOUTH TOUR**

Youth Tour is a FREE, week-long, leadership-focused trip to Washington, D.C. happening June 15-20, 2026!

Visit our website at central.elec.coop for more information.

AFFP

ORDER#57091 NATIONAL FUEL

Affidavit of Publication

STATE OF PENNSYLVANIA } SS
COUNTY OF CLEARFIELD }

Pat Patterson, being duly sworn, says:

That he is Publisher of the Progress, est April 5, 1913, a daily newspaper of general circulation, printed and published in Clearfield, Clearfield County, Pennsylvania; that the publication, a copy of which is attached hereto, was published in the said newspaper on the following

January 29, 2026

That said newspaper was regularly issued and circulated on those dates.

SIGNED:



Publisher

Subscribed to and sworn to me this 29th day of January 2026.



Sherri Gaines, Notary Public, Clearfield County, Pennsylvania

My commission expires: May 08, 2028

00098661 00697894

MANSI NATIONAL FUEL
4000 Crums Mill Road, Suite 101
HARRISBURG, PA 17112

Commonwealth of Pennsylvania - Notary Seal
Sherri Gaines, Notary Public
Clearfield County
My commission expires May 8, 2028
Commission number 1443119
Member, Pennsylvania Association of Notaries

Notice of Proposed Rate Change

To Our Customers:

National Fuel Gas Distribution Corporation (National Fuel or Company) is filing with the Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission (PUC) to increase your gas rates as of March 29, 2026. This notice describes the Company's rate request, and what actions you can take.

The Company has requested a base rate increase of \$19.7 million per year. This also includes a request for approval of the following alternative rate mechanisms in accordance with 66 Pa. C.S. § 1330: 1) Permanent Weather Normalization Act; 2) Energy Efficiency (EE) pilot program for an additional \$0.7 million per year recovered from residential customers through a separate rider. Additionally, the Company has proposed the reactivation of the OPEB rider I surcredit to refund \$7.2 million per customer bill relief.

If the Company's entire request is approved, the total bill for a residential customer using 80 ccf per month would increase from \$83.49 to \$90.28 per month, or by 8.1% when including the proposed EE rider. From \$83.49 to \$88.44 per month, or by 5.9% when including the proposed OPEB rider I surcredit extension.

The total bill for a small commercial customer using 257 ccf per month would increase from \$189.24 to \$201.21 per month or by 6.5%. From \$189.24 to \$198.11 per month, or by 4.7% when including the proposed OPEB rider I surcredit extension.

The total bill for an intermediate volume industrial customer using 802 Mcf per month would increase from \$1,905.13 to \$2,039.29 per month, or by 7.0%. From \$1,905.13 to \$2,000.00 per month, or by 4.2% when including the proposed OPEB rider I surcredit extension.

To find out your customer class or how the requested increase may affect you, contact National Fuel at 1-800-365-3234. The rates requested by the Company are found in Supplement No. 294 to Tariff Gas - Pa. P.U.C. No. 9. You may examine the rates filed with the PUC, which explains the requested increase and the reasons for the increase. A copy of this material is kept at National Fuel's Consumer Assistance Centers. Upon request, the Company will send you a statement of reasons for Supplement No. 294 explaining the Company requested the rate increase.

The state agency which approves rates for public utilities is the PUC. The PUC will examine the requested rate increase and can prevent existing rates from changing if it investigates and/or holds hearings on the request. The Company must prove that the requested rates are reasonable. After examining the evidence, the PUC may approve some, or none of the request or may reduce existing rates.

The PUC may change the amount of the rate increase or decrease requested for each customer class. As a result, the rate charged to you may be different from the rate requested by the Company and shown above.

There are three ways to challenge a company's request to change its rates:

- 1. You can file a formal complaint. If you want a hearing before a judge, you must file a formal complaint.** By filing a formal complaint, you assure yourself the opportunity to take part in hearings about the rate increase request. Complaints should be filed with the PUC before March 29, 2026. If no complaints are filed, the Commission may grant all, some or none of the request without holding a hearing before a judge.
- 2. You can send us a letter explaining why you object to the requested rate increase.** Sometimes there is information in these letters that makes it easier for us to identify areas of problems with the Company's service or management. This information can be helpful when we investigate the rate request. **Send your letter or request for a formal complaint form to the Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission, Office Box 3265, Harrisburg, PA 17105-3265.**
- 3. You can be a witness at a public input hearing.** Public input hearings are held if the Commission opens an investigation of the company's rate increase request and if there is a large number of customers interested in the case. At these hearings you have the opportunity to present your views in person to the hearing judge. Your testimony becomes part of the official rate case record. These hearings are held in the service area of the Company.

For more information, call the PUC at 1-800-692-7380. You may leave your name and address so you can be notified of any public input hearings that may be scheduled in the future.

AFFP

PO#57093 NATIONAL FUEL JAN2026

Affidavit of Publication

STATE OF PENNSYLVANIA } SS
COUNTY OF CLEARFIELD }

Pat Patterson, being duly sworn, says:

That he is Publisher of the Courier Express/Tri-County Weekend, a daily newspaper of general circulation, printed and published in DuBois, Clearfield County, Pennsylvania; that the publication, a copy of which is attached hereto, was published in the said newspaper on the following

January 29, 2026

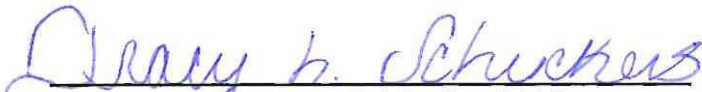
That said newspaper was regularly issued and circulated on those dates.

SIGNED:



Publisher

Subscribed to and sworn to me this 29th day of January 2026.



Tracy L. Schuckers, Notary Public, Clearfield County, Pennsylvania

My commission expires: April 08, 2025

00031186 00697945 8144567879

NATIONAL FUEL / MANSI MEDIA
4000 CRUMS MILL RD
SUITE 101
HARRISBURG, PA 17112

Commonwealth of Pennsylvania - Notary Seal
Tracy L. Schuckers, Notary Public
Clearfield County
My commission expires April 8, 2029
Commission number 1275896
Member, Pennsylvania Association of Notaries

Notice of Proposed Rate C

To Our Customers:

National Fuel Gas Distribution Corporation (National Fuel or Company) with the Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission (PUC) to increase your rates as of March 29, 2026. This notice describes the Company's rate role, and what actions you can take.

The Company has requested a base rate increase of \$19.7 million per year also includes a request for approval of the following alternative rate riders in accordance with 66 Pa. C.S. § 1330: 1) Permanent Weather Normalization 2) Energy Efficiency (EE) pilot program for an additional \$0.7 million per year recovered from residential customers through a separate rider. Additionally, the Company has proposed the reactivation of the OPEB rider I surcredit to refund residential customer bill relief.

If the Company's entire request is approved, the total bill for a residential customer using 80 ccf per month would increase from \$83.49 to \$90.28 per month, or by 8.1% including the proposed EE rider. From \$83.49 to \$88.44 per month, or by 5.9% including the proposed OPEB rider I surcredit extension.

The total bill for a small commercial customer using 257 ccf per month would increase from \$189.24 to \$201.21 per month or by 6.3%. From \$189.24 to \$199.24 per month, or by 5.1% when including the proposed OPEB rider I surcredit extension.

The total bill for an intermediate volume industrial customer using 80 ccf per month would increase from \$1,905.13 to \$2,039.29 per month, or by 7.0%. From \$1,905.13 to \$1,965.13 per month, or by 3.1% when including the proposed OPEB rider I surcredit extension.

To find out your customer class or how the requested increase may affect you, please contact National Fuel at 1-800-365-3234. The rates requested by the Company are found in Supplement No. 294 to Tariff Gas - Pa. P.U.C. No. 9. You may also find this material in the PUC's public utility file. A copy of this material is kept at National Fuel's Consumer Assistance Center. If you have any questions, the Company will send you a statement of reasons for Supplement No. 294. The Company requested the rate increase.

The state agency which approves rates for public utilities is the PUC. The PUC will examine the requested rate increase and can prevent existing rates if it finds the requested rates are unreasonable. After examining the evidence, the PUC may approve, deny, or reduce existing rates.

The PUC may change the amount of the rate increase or decrease for each customer class. As a result, the rate charged to you may be different from the rate requested by the Company and shown above.

There are three ways to challenge a company's request to change its rates:

1. **You can file a formal complaint. If you want a hearing before the PUC, you must file a formal complaint.** By filing a formal complaint, you will have the opportunity to take part in hearings about the rate increase.

PREVIOUS PUZZLE SOLVED

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- 73 " — of Eden" 30 Symbols of peace 32 Mogul 33 Early video game maker 34 — Barbara 37 Word puzzle with pictures 41 Shown to be false 44 Cost to fly 45 Greenish blue 47 Fake bait 50 Destructive uprisings 52 Abuse verbally 54 "Merry Widow" composer 56 Part of MIT 57 — the Censor 58 Cheese type 60 Territory 61 Excavations 62 Aide (Abbr.) 65 " — you kidding me?" 66 Born (Fr.)

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District Court — Punxsutawney

By **Brianne Fleming**
bfleming@thecourierexpress.com

PUNXSUTAWNEY — Preliminary hearings and other proceedings were held Jan. 27 with Magisterial District Judge Jacqueline Mizock presiding.

Hearings waived — The following defendants waived their rights to a preliminary hearing and will be formally arraigned at the Jefferson County Court of Common Pleas.

- Michael Kitchen, 47, of Walston, who is charged with one count of aggravated assault, a felony of the first degree; one count of simple assault, a misdemeanor of the second degree and a summary offense for harassment. Bail was set at \$30,000.
- Tristian Lynn Doshak, 26, of Ridgway, who is charged with one count of possession of a controlled substance and one count of the use/possession of drug paraphernalia, each misdemeanors, and a traffic violation. Bail was set at \$10,000.
- William Doverspike, 61, of Punxsutawney, who is charged with one count of disorderly conduct by engaging in fighting — a

misdemeanor of the third degree. Bail was set at \$5,000.

- Nicholas Matthew Welsh, 40, of Punxsutawney, who is charged with one count of DUI — general impairment/incapable of driving safely — first offense and one count of DUI — general impairment/incapable of driving safely — first offense and one count of DUI — first offense, each misdemeanors, and traffic violations. Bail was set at \$5,000.
- Carrie Lin Macko, 40, of Jefferson County Jail, who is charged with one count of possession of a controlled substance, one count of the use/possession of drug paraphernalia and one count of possession of marijuana, each misdemeanors. Bail was set at \$5,000.
- Jonathan Wayne Lute, 42, of Jefferson County Jail, who is charged with three counts of aggravated assault, a felony of the first degree; one count of endangering the welfare of children, a felony of the third degree; one count of recklessly endangering another person and two counts of simple assault, each misdemeanors of the second degree and three counts of harassment, a misdemeanor of the third degree. Bail is set at \$25,000.
- Austin Michael Krollick, 27, of Punxsutaw-

ney, who is charged with one count of DUI — general impairment/incapable of driving safely — first offense and one count of DUI — general impairment — first offense, each misdemeanors, and traffic violations. Bail was set at \$5,000.

- Nicole Lynn Jacobson, 47, of Punxsutawney, one count of DUI — general impairment/incapable of driving safely — first offense, each misdemeanors, and traffic violations. Bail was set at \$5,000.
- Megan Lee Dickey, 31, of Anita, who is charged with one count of DUI — general impairment/incapable of driving safely — first offense and one count of DUI — first offense, each misdemeanors, and traffic violations. Bail was set at \$5,000.
- Maria Cesidia Crago, 21, of Punxsutawney, who is charged with one count of the use/possession of drug paraphernalia, one count of possession of a small amount/distribute, not sell, one count of diversion of medical marijuana by patient or caregiver and one

count of adulteration of medical marijuana, each misdemeanors. Bail was set at \$5,000.

- Gregory James Doty, 20, of DuBois, who is charged with one count of DUI — minor — first offense, one count of DUI — general impairment/incapable of driving safely — first offense, one count of DUI — combination of alcohol/drugs — first offense and three counts of DUI — controlled substance — first offense, each misdemeanors, and traffic violations. Bail was set at \$5,000.

Held for court — Sufficient evidence was established, following a preliminary hearing, to send the following cases to the Jefferson County Court of Common Pleas for further disposition.

- Zephaniah Aaron Joseph Vickers, 29, of Jefferson County Jail, who is charged with one count of aggravated assault, a felony of the second degree; one count of resisting arrest/other law enforcement, a misdemeanor of the second degree; one count of disorderly conduct by engaging in fighting and one count of trespassing, each misdemeanors of the third degree. Bail is set at \$5,000.

DuBois woman accused of DUI of meth

By **Brianne Fleming**
bfleming@thecourierexpress.com

WEEDVILLE — A Clearfield County woman has been charged for allegedly driving under the influence of methamphetamine and other drugs late last year.

State police in Ridgway have charged Amanda Rae Duttry, 35, of DuBois, with three counts of driving under the influence (DUI) of alcohol/a controlled substance, a felony of the third degree; one count of possession of a controlled substance and one count of the use/possession of drug paraphernalia, each misdemeanors, and traffic violations, according to a criminal complaint filed at Magisterial District Judge Mark Jacob's office Jan. 22.

Duttry was placed under police in Ridgway were traveling south on State Route 255 in Jay Township, Elk County. The officer observed a gray 2000 Ford sedan with both rear lights out. Police conducted a traffic stop on the vehicle and observed a woman in the driver's side mirror placing a white item in her purse. The driver was identified as Duttry. The officer reportedly observed a glass methamphetamine pipe sticking out of Duttry's purse and a glass pipe in a red glasses case. Duttry allegedly attempted to hiding the device from the officer. Police asked Duttry to exit the vehicle and perform sobriety tests, during which she allegedly showed multiple signs of impairment, according to the affidavit of probable cause.

Duttry was placed under arrest. Police discovered methamphetamine in a yellow envelope in her back pocket, and the methamphetamine pipe was seized from her purse, as well as several other items: clear pill capsules containing methamphetamine; white crystal methamphetamine rocks; brown glass meth pipe; clear glass meth pipe with residue; rubber straw containing suspected pill residue; clear container with five green pills; silver keychain capsule containing crushed pills and a red glasses case with suspected methamphetamine residue, according to the affidavit of probable cause.

During an evaluation with a Drug Recognition Expert (DRE), Duttry reportedly admitted to using methamphetamine and Subutex. Police ob-

tained a search warrant for her blood on Nov. 29, 2025, which was provided at Penn Highlands Elk.

On Dec. 27, 2025, police received blood results for Duttry, which showed that at the time of the arrest, she had amphetamine, methamphetamine, Buprenorphine and Norbuprenorphine in her system, according to the affidavit of probable cause.

Duttry's preliminary hearing is set for March 3 at Jacob's office.

Clearfield woman accused of assaulting staff, officers at hospital

By **Amanda C. Thompson**
newsroom@thecourierexpress.com

CLEARFIELD — A 36-year-old Clearfield woman is facing charges as the result of two alleged incidents Saturday at Penn Highlands Clearfield.

Helaina Marie Haidet was arraigned by Mag-

isterial District Judge J. Michael Morris on the following charges: aggravated assault — attempts to cause or causes serious bodily injury to designated individuals, first-degree felony, one count; terroristic threats with intent to terrorize another, first-degree misdemeanor, one

count; simple assault, second-degree misdemeanor, one count; harassment, third-degree misdemeanor, one count; disorderly conduct, third degree misdemeanor, one count; harassment, summary, one count.

Morris set Haidet's

See Haidet, A4

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Editor's Letters:
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Notice of Proposed Rate Changes

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STATE OF NEW YORK }

} SS.

COUNTY OF Albany }

I, David J. Worden, duly swear that I am employed with New York Press Service, Inc.

representing the Beaver County Times/Ellwood City Ledger, a newspaper publication based in Beaver (Beaver County), Pennsylvania, as the Acting Representative

and further swear that the National Fuel ad

ran in the Beaver County Times/Ellwood City Ledger on the following date(s):

Date(s): January 29, 2026



(signature)

Sworn to before me on this 25th day of February, 2026



Notary's signature

Tamara Coons
Notary Public, State of New York
Reg. No. 01Co0037516
Qualified in Albany County
Commission Expires 05/16/2029

Banks navigate shifting policy environment

Trump lawsuit highlights friction with Wall Street

Lananh Nguyen, Manya Saini
and Douglas Gillison
REUTERS

WASHINGTON — President Donald Trump's lawsuit against JPMorgan Chase and its CEO Jamie Dimon highlights a growing, and politically fraught, conflict in the administration's policy agenda for Wall Street, with big banks scoring wins but also facing setbacks.

In his most confrontational move yet against Wall Street, Trump filed a \$5 billion lawsuit on Jan. 22 accusing the nation's largest lender and Dimon of closing several of his and his companies' accounts on political grounds. Trump has long claimed that Wall Street banks have sought to marginalize him and other conservatives — allegations JPMorgan and other banks deny.

The move underscores how large financial institutions, expected to be major winners of Trump's sweeping deregulatory agenda, are increasingly navigating an unpredictable and sometimes hostile policy environment that could damage their reputations, potentially affect their business, and force them to rethink their lobbying strategy in Washington.

"The industry is losing as many battles as it wins on big issues and the constant pressure and random nature of developments is taking its toll," said Todd Baker, a senior fellow at Columbia University. The president's lawsuit follows his threat to cap interest rates on consumer credit cards at 10% — a proposal Dimon warned would be an "economic disaster" — and comes as Trump's regulators move to make it easier for fintech, crypto firms and some corporations to compete directly with traditional banks.

"The Trump administration is delivering by shoring up financial markets and cutting unnecessary red tape to accelerate growth," White House spokesman Kush Desai said.

JPMorgan declined to comment. On Jan. 22, it said "we believe the suit has no merit. We respect the President's right to sue us and our right to defend



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Trump has also targeted other lenders. The Trump Organization is suing credit card giant Capital One, alleging the bank closed its accounts for political reasons.



Moynihan

Trump has criticized Bank of America CEO Brian Moynihan and told CNBC in August that the bank declined to provide Trump with an account. Large banks have consistently said they do not reject customers on political or other belief-based grounds. Trump also last year attacked Goldman Sachs CEO David Solomon for the bank's bearish stance on tariffs.

Bank of America and Goldman declined to comment. Capital One did not immediately provide comment. "Banks probably will be more cautious moving forward after seeing this reaction, seeing that they're no longer just under threat of regulatory retaliation, but also lawsuits," said Nicholas Anthony, a policy analyst at Washington think tank,

the Cato Institute.

Advocacy efforts

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The Washington-based Financial Services Forum, which represents those banks, also in December launched the American Growth Alliance, a nonprofit that it said would spend tens of millions of dollars advocating for "commonsense" policies to grow the economy. The Forum and American Growth Alliance declined to comment.

"The biggest question that remains is what steps will be necessary to navigate an administration that has shown a

willingness to intervene aggressively and unpredictably in the sector," said Myra Thomas, banking analyst at eMarketer.

Capital win still expected

To be sure, Trump administration regulators are set to hand big banks massive capital relief, which by some estimates could free up as much as \$200 billion in cash. Lenders have also cheered regulators' shift to overhaul bank supervision, and their support of big mergers.

When Dimon convened financial CEOs at a conference at JPMorgan's brand-new New York skyscraper in December, executives were optimistic that those changes would unleash more profits, according to a person who attended the event. "There's just a much more rational approach on focusing on the big, important matters," Citizens Financial CEO Bruce Van Saun said on Jan. 21, referring to supervision. "That's a refreshing change."

The industry still expects to lock in capital relief, said another bank CEO who declined to be identified discussing regulatory issues. Those changes continue to make bank stocks attractive, investors said.

"This case is not likely to move that needle much," said Brian Mulberry, senior client portfolio manager at Zacks Investment Management, which owns JPMorgan shares.

Indeed, bank shares have kept pace with markets under Trump's presidency.

However, the president's whipsawing financial policies, some of which are also being driven by his need to address voter cost-of-living concerns ahead of this year's congressional elections, are souring the mood. Banks were blindsided by the credit card proposal, and have since been trying to help shape Trump's affordability agenda. Some executives are also frustrated that banks are losing ground to fintechs and crypto firms favored by Trump's inner circle, according to three industry executives.

"I don't think Trump has a lot of love for the big banks," said Brian Jacobsen, chief economic strategist at Annex Wealth Management.

Pretti remembered by teachers in Wisconsin

Nadia Scharf

Green Bay Press-Gazette
USA TODAY NETWORK — WISCONSIN

The death of former Green Bay Preble High School student Alex Pretti has hung heavy in the Wisconsin air since Jan. 24, the day a federal immigration officer fatally shot him during a protest in Minneapolis.

What would've been a normal school board meeting Jan. 26 opened instead with a speech by its board president, honoring Pretti as a "conscientious, civic-minded individual."

"His life reflects the values that we strive to instill in our students," James Lyerly said. "Compassion, service and responsibility to others."

It was a life and legacy that several former teachers also reflected on during the meeting.

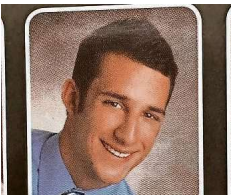
Pretti, who was living in Minneapolis and working as a nurse, graduated high school in 2006. He was deeply involved in the performing arts during high school. At the board meeting, seven people spoke for about 30 minutes during the open forum portion of the meeting. They memorialized the singer, helper and leader they knew in school.

Pretti was the "personification of kindness," said Carol Miller, former Preble musical director. As a senior, he went out of his way to welcome underclassmen, she said.

"We will always value his leadership and spread some of the kindness that he gave to others," Miller said. "That's the ripple effect. And I think that's where his legacy therein lies."

Susan McAllister can still see Pretti, who was her music student for all four years of high school, standing in the bass section of the choir. She saw her music students a "whole lot more" than their parents did, she said. She got to know them and love them; once they're "your kid," they're always your kid, McAllister said.

"My heart is broken under Alex's death. And of course, like everybody else, I am deeply angry," McAllister said. "But I am also so, so proud of the young man I knew."



Alex Pretti was a 2006 graduate of Green Bay Preble High School. Pretti was fatally shot by federal law enforcement during a protest on Jan. 24 in Minneapolis.

PROVIDED BY GREEN BAY SCHOOL DISTRICT

Karie Green, an associate director of the Green Bay Boys Choir, remembered his "revolutionary" kindness.

She also read a statement from Susan Carlson, a former teacher who taught Pretti in middle school.

"At his core, Alex was a helper," Carlson wrote. "I'm not one bit surprised that his final act on Earth was to help a woman who had been viciously thrown to the ground, and that his last words were, 'Are you OK?'"

Before the school board meeting, Preble teacher Michael Wittig, who had Pretti in U.S. history class in 2005, remembered him as a curious student who loved to be challenged. He knew how important it was to nurture relationships.

After the teachers spoke, Superintendent Vicki Bayer took the floor. At the end of a district news update, she paused, and photos of the makeshift memorial to Pretti at Preble came on the screen.

She and other administrators had gone to Preble to talk with students, Bayer said. In the conversation, the students had demonstrated all the skills the district wants to instill in its students — the skills Lyerly said Pretti showed.

"What they had to say — you would've been so proud," Bayer said.

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STATE OF NEW YORK }

} SS.

COUNTY OF Albany }

I, David J. Worden, duly swear that I am employed with New York Press Service, Inc.

representing the Erie Times-News, a newspaper publication based in Erie (Erie County), Pennsylvania, as the Acting Representative

and further swear that the National Fuel ad

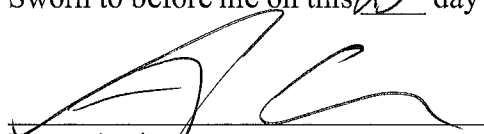
ran in the Erie Times-News on the following date(s):

Date(s): January 29, 2026



(signature)

Sworn to before me on this 25th day of February, 2026



Notary's signature

Tamara Coons
Notary Public, State of New York
Reg. No. 01Co0037516
Qualified in Albany County
Commission Expires 05/16/2029

Banks navigate shifting policy environment

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Lananh Nguyen, Manya Saini
and Douglas Gillison
REUTERS

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HIGH INTEREST?

Transfer your credit card balances to Erie FCU!

2.99% Promo APR*

NO Annual Fee!

NO Balance Transfer Fees!

* Offer applies to balances transferred from January 1 - March 31, 2026. Promotional APR effective until the end of the December 2026 billing cycle. Remaining balances will accrue interest at the regular annual percentage rate (APR) applicable to your account, which can range from 8.90% to 17.90% based on your creditworthiness.

eriefcu.org
(814) 825-2436

Erie Federal Credit Union

Loans subject to credit approval. Existing Erie FCU loans, credit card balances, purchases, cash advances, and Business Mastercard® accounts are not eligible for this offer. Certain restrictions apply. Membership eligibility required.

AFFP

PO#57096 NATIONAL FUEL JAN2026

Affidavit of Publication

STATE OF PENNSYLVANIA } SS
COUNTY OF JEFFERSON }

Pat Patterson, being duly sworn, says:

That he is Publisher of the Jeffersonian Democrat, a daily newspaper of general circulation, printed and published in Brookville, Jefferson County, Pennsylvania; that the publication, a copy of which is attached hereto, was published in the said newspaper on the following dates:

January 29, 2026

That said newspaper was regularly issued and circulated on those dates.

SIGNED:



Publisher

Subscribed to and sworn to me this 29th day of January 2026.

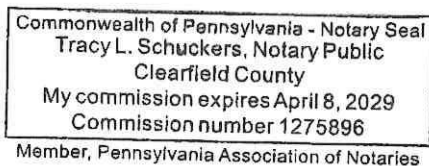


Tracy L. Schuckers, Notary Public, Clearfield Co.,
Jefferson County, Pennsylvania

My commission expires: April 08, 2025

00031186 00697943 8144567879

NATIONAL FUEL / MANSI MEDIA
4000 CRUMS MILL RD
SUITE 101
HARRISBURG, PA 17112



POLICE

BROOKVILLE

Intimidation

Brookville police are investigating a report of a man on Jan. 16 threatened to use force against another person, to prevent that person from giving a testimony or information for a case. Charges will be filed in district court.

Theft by deception

Brookville police said charges will be filed against a woman who used a check issued to her after she deceived the owner of the check.

PUNXSUTAWNEY

DUI/drugs

State police in Punxsutawney conducted a traffic stop at 11:29 a.m. Jan. 5 on Route 36 in Rose Twp. Police arrested the driver, a 65-year-old man from North Apollo, for DUI and possession of illicit drugs.

State police in Punxsutawney investigated a one-vehicle crash at 7:41 a.m. Jan. 7 in Winslow Twp. The driver, a 54-year-old man from Reynoldsville, was arrested for DUI/drugs.

At 5:37 p.m. Jan. 1, State police in Punxsutawney investigated a rollover crash on Route 536 in Ringgold Twp. The driver, a 37-year-old man from Mayport, was arrested for DUI/alcohol.

Three-vehicle crash

Minor injuries were reported in a three-vehicle crash investigated by State police in Punxsutawney at 2:37 p.m. Jan. 19 on Route 28 in Pine Creek Twp. Police said Lynda D. Cappetta, 63, of Brockway, was traveling south when her 2020 Mitsubishi Outlander crossed the yellow line on a slight curve and hit the front end of a 2013 Kia Sportage, driven by Graham V. Horner, 40, of Johnsonburg. The Outlander went airborne and spun around before stopping in the northbound lane. A 2015 Chevrolet Silverado then crashed into the rear of the Kia. Cappetta was taken to Penn Highlands DuBois by Jefferson County EMS and Horner was taken to Penn Highlands Brookville by Jefferson County EMS. The Mitsubishi and Kia were both towed from the scene.

One-vehicle crash

State police in Punxsutawney said no injuries were reported in a one-vehicle crash at 11:32 a.m. Jan. 19 on Route 322 in Pine Creek Twp. Police said Quin A. Morgan, 18, of DuBois, was traveling east when her 2013 Nissan Titan went off the road and hit a utility pole. Police said Morgan was cited for traveling too fast for conditions on the snow-covered road.

Harassment

State police in Punxsutawney arrested a 19-year-old man from Big Run at 4 p.m. Dec. 9 for a harassment incident involving a 17-year-old girl from Big Run.

Passengers injured

State police in Punxsutawney said two children sustained minor injuries in a one-vehicle accident at 8:39 a.m. Jan. 22 in Bell Twp. Police said Mary S. Zurenda, 60, of Punxsutawney, was traveling north on Route 36 when she lost control of her 2004 Chevrolet Silverado on the snow-covered road. The pickup went off the road and hit a tree. She was evaluated by Jefferson County EMS and reported not injured. Her passengers, 3 and 5-year-old boys, were taken by ambulance to Punxsutawney Area Hospital with minor injuries. The pickup was towed from the scene. Also assisting at the scene were PennDOT and Central, Lindsey and Elk Run fire departments.

Car hits porch

State police in Punxsutawney said Brooke R. Steel, 22, of Delancey, was not injured when her 2012 Ford Focus hit a porch. Police said Steel was traveling north on Walston Road at 9:26 p.m. Nov. 21 when she lost control of the car on the snow-covered road. The car went off the road and hit the front porch of 1886 Walston Road in Young Twp. The car was towed from the scene. Assisting police were PennDOT, Jefferson County EMS, Central, Lindsey and Elk Run fire departments.

PSP announces road closures for Groundhog Day festivities

PUNXSUTAWNEY — Due to Groundhog Day festivities, state police in Punxsutawney have announced the following road closures, which will be enforced from 3-10 a.m. next Monday, Feb. 2, in the vicinity of Gobbler's Knob.

Police said the following roadways will be closed to all vehicle traffic.

- Snyder Hill and Woodland Avenue Extension will be closed to all traffic and anyone on foot.
- Ridge Road and Pine Tree Road will be closed to all traffic and anyone on foot.
- Elderberry Hill Road will be closed to anyone without an official parking permit for Gobbler's Knob.

- Ridge Road will be closed at Baja Welding to all vehicle and pedestrian traffic. Roadways for will be allowed to walk through the woods from

Endangering children

State police in Punxsutawney were called to a residence in Rossiter at 8:14 a.m. Jan. 19, where drugs were in the open with juveniles present.

SUV overturns

PSP Punxsy said Frank B. Pennington, 69, of Marion Center, was not injured in an accident at 3:22 p.m. Jan. 21 in Burnside Twp., Clearfield County. Police said Pennington lost control of his 1996 Toyota 4Runner while traveling west on Sylvius Road. The SUV crossed the road, hit an embankment twice and overturned on its drivers side. Assisting at the scene were Westover VFD and Hastings EMS.

No injuries

Four teenagers escaped injury when a 17-year-old boy from Brookville lost control of his 2011 Toyota Corolla on a snow-covered road while traveling east on Route 322 in Pine Creek Twp. The vehicle went off the road and hit a utility pole. The accident happened at 7:34 p.m. Jan. 21. Assisting at the scene were PennDOT and the PA Game Commission.

Pickup crashes

State police in Punxsutawney said no injuries were reported when a pickup crashed at 12:57 p.m. Jan. 22 in Bell Twp. Police said Clinton B. Stout, 41, of Corsica, was traveling east on Trout Run Road, too fast for conditions on the snow-covered road, when he lost control of his 2020 Toyota Tacoma. The pickup went off the road and down a small embankment, and was towed from the scene.

Rape

State police in Punxsutawney are investigating a report that a 13-year-old girl was sexually assaulted at 7:09 p.m. Jan. 24 in Young Twp. **SUV hits wall** State police in Punxsutawney said two people were injured when a 2008 Chevrolet HHR hit a concrete wall. Police said Jimmy Oliver, 84, of Clymer, was traveling north on Route 119 in North Mahoning Twp., Indiana County, when he failed to negotiate a left curve and his SUV went off the road and hit the wall. Oliver was taken to Indiana Regional Medical Center by Jefferson County EMS with minor injuries. His passenger, Patricia L. Oliver, 81, of Clymer, was taken by Jefferson County EMS to Penn Highlands DuBois with injuries of unknown severity. Also assisting at the scene was Perry Twp. VFD.

MARIENVILLE

DUI/drugs

State police in Marienville conducted a traffic stop at 11:19 a.m. Jan. 13 in Washington Twp., Clarion County. Police said the driver, a 45-year-old woman from New Kensington, was arrested for possession of marijuana and paraphernalia and DUI/marijuana.

Harassment

State police in Marienville were called to Woodland Drive in Jenks Twp., Forest County, at 12:52 p.m. Jan. 15 to investigate a report of harassment of a 24-year-old man from Marienville.

State police in Marienville are investigating the harassment of a 15-year-old boy on Abraxas Road in Howe Twp., Forest County, between Dec. 1-10, and a 16-year-old between Dec. 26 and 31.

Bad checks

State police have charged Stephanie Lizza, 36, of Venus, with issuing bad checks totaling \$287 to Leeper Red and White between Jan. 3-6.

DUBOIS

DUI/drugs

A 24-year-old man from Reynoldsville was arrested for DUI at 1:47 a.m. Dec. 28 following a traffic stop by PSP DuBois in DuBois.

No injuries

State police in DuBois said no injuries were reported in a two-vehicle accident at 2:11 a.m. Jan. 14 in

Fox Twp., Elk County. Police said Bradley A. Rightmire, 32, of Clearfield, was making a left turn into a parking area on Penfield Road when Alan L. Chapel, 65, of Sheffield, attempted to overtake him. The passenger side of Chapel's 2018 Chevrolet Silverado hit a snow plow on the driver side of Rightmire's 2011 International Harvester SF567. Chapel's pickup stopped in a ditch and was towed from the scene with severe damage.

State police in DuBois said Ronald J. Brosius, 79, of Brookville, was not injured when his 2017 Dodge Ram 1500 went off the right side of the road, hit a ditch and a tree with the passenger side. The accident happened at 12:41 p.m. Jan. 18 on Richardsville Road in Warsaw Twp.

Harassment

State police in DuBois have charged Jasmin Randall, 24, of Sykesville, following an incident at 10:40 p.m. Jan 20 in Sykesville. Police said Randall hit a 25-year-old man from Sykesville with a closed fist multiple times and threw a blue tooth speaker at him, cutting his left ear which then needed stitches.

Minor injuries

State police in DuBois said Nurul A. Atik, 40, of Brooklyn, N.Y., sustained minor injuries in a one-vehicle accident at 7:43 a.m. Jan. 12 in Pine Twp., Clearfield County. Police said Atik was traveling west on I-80 when his 2022 Toyota C-HR crossed the road, hit an embankment and rolled over multiple times before stopping in a small ravine. Police said Atik refused transport to a hospital. He was cited for driving too fast.

RIDGWAY

DUI/drugs

State police in Ridgway investigated a one-vehicle crash at 5:11 p.m. Jan. 13 in Jay Twp., Elk Co. Police said the driver, a 35-year-old man from Ridgway, failed to negotiate a left curve and went off the road. He was arrested for DUI/alcohol and controlled substance.

Minor injuries

State police in Ridgway said Tyler S. Schleicher, 29, of Kane, sustained minor injuries when his 2025 Chevrolet Equinox went off a snow-covered road. Police said Schleicher was traveling north on Route 66 in Highland Twp., Elk County, when the snow accumulation on the road forced the Equinox off the shoulder, where it hit a downed tree. Schleicher was taken by EmergencyCare Ambulance to UPMC Kane. The Equinox was towed from the scene. The accident happened at 6:45 a.m. Jan. 20.

No injuries

State police in Ridgway said no injuries were reported in a two-vehicle crash at 1:27 p.m. Jan. 18 in Highland Twp., Elk County. Police said Michah J. Edinger, 28, of James City, was turning right onto Pennsylvania Avenue in James City. As he accelerated up the slight incline of Virginia Avenue, his 2022 Hyundai Santa Fe slid on the icy road and traveled in front of a 2006 Chevrolet Silverado, driven by Jesse S. Blankenship, 51, of Kane. The pickup was towed from the scene.

SUV hits tree

State police in Ridgway said Danielle A. Sheeley, 47, of Sigel, was not injured in a one-vehicle crash at 6:52 a.m. Jan. 19 in Millstone Twp., Elk County. Police said Sheeley was traveling west on River Road, too fast for road conditions. While negotiating a right curve her 2024 Subaru XV Crosstrek went off the road and hit a tree, then stopped in the left lane. The SUV was towed from the scene.

Three-vehicle crash

One person sustained possible injuries in a three-vehicle crash investigated by state police in Ridgway at 9:46 a.m. Jan. 22 in Jones Twp., Elk County. Police said Karla A. Leone, 69, of Lewis Run, was traveling south on Route 219 and started to lose control of her 2016 Fiat 500 due to icy weather conditions. She slowed down and Sara A. Wichensky, 31, of Bradford, also slowed down. Her 2023 Hyundai Tucson slid and hit the Fiat, but neither vehicle was damaged. Glenn C. Spicola, 65, of North Collins, N.Y., attempted to stop his Kenworth Northwest W900, but hit the Tucson, causing disabling damage to both vehicles. Police said Wichensky was taken to Penn Highlands Elk by Wilcox EMS with possible injuries. Also assisting at the scene was Wilcox VFD.

SUV crash

State police in Ridgway said Katie A. Hetrick, 42, of Johnsonburg, sustained minor injuries in a one-vehicle crash at 9:40 a.m. Jan. 22 in Ridgway Twp., Elk County. Police said Hetrick was traveling north on Route 219. On a left curve, her 2021 Hyundai Santa Fe crossed the road, hit the guide rail, then crossed the road and hit the guide rail and again crossed the road and hit the guide rail. The SUV crossed the road again and went into a ditch, traveling about 300 feet before stopping. She was taken to Penn Highlands Elk by Ridgway Ambulance. The SUV was towed from the scene.

SUV hits deer

State police in Ridgway said Ethan T. Rowe, 36, of Ridgway, was not injured when his 2024 Ford Explorer hit a deer. The accident happened at 11 p.m. Jan. 21 in Clarion Twp., Clarion County.

Notice of Proposed Rate Changes

To Our Customers:

National Fuel Gas Distribution Corporation (National Fuel or Company) is filing a request with the Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission (PUC) to increase your gas distribution rates as of March 29, 2026. This notice describes the Company's rate request, the PUC's role, and what actions you can take.

The Company has requested a base rate increase of \$19.7 million per year. This filing also includes a request for approval of the following alternative rate mechanisms in accordance with 66 Pa. C.S. § 1330.1) Permanent Weather Normalization Adjustment; 2) Energy Efficiency (EE) pilot program for an additional \$0.7 million per year to be recovered from residential customers through a separate rider. Additionally, the Company has proposed the reactivation of the OPEB rider I surcredit to refund \$7.2 million for customer bill relief.

If the Company's entire request is approved, the total bill for a residential customer using 80 ccf per month would increase from \$83.49 to \$90.28 per month, or by 8.1% including the proposed EE rider. From \$83.49 to \$88.44 per month, or by 5.9% when including the proposed OPEB rider I surcredit extension.

The total bill for a small commercial customer using 257 ccf per month would increase from \$189.24 to \$201.21 per month or by 6.5%. From \$189.24 to \$193.61 per month, or by 5.1% when including the proposed OPEB rider I surcredit extension.

The total bill for an intermediate volume industrial customer using 902 Mcf monthly would increase from \$1905.33 to \$2,038.29 per month, or by 7.0%. From \$1905.33 to \$1,984.36 per month, or by 4.2% when including the proposed OPEB rider I surcredit extension.

To find out your customer class or how the requested increase may affect your gas bill, contact National Fuel at 1-800-955-3234. The rates requested by the Company may be found in Supplement No. 294 to Tariff Gas - Pa, PJJC, No. 9. You may examine the material filed with the PUC, which explains the requested increase and the reasons for it. A copy of this material is kept at National Fuels Consumer Assistance Centers. Upon request, the Company will send you a statement of reasons for Supplement No. 294 explaining why the Company requested the rate increase.

The state agency which approves rates for public utilities is the PUC. The PUC will examine the requested rate increase and can prevent existing rates from changing until it investigates and/or holds hearings on the request. The Company must prove that the requested rates are reasonable. After examining the evidence, the PUC may grant all, some, or none of the request or may reduce existing rates.

The PUC may change the amount of the rate increase or decrease requested by the utility for each customer class. As a result, the rate charged to you may be different than the rate requested by the Company and shown above.

There are three ways to challenge a company's request to change its rates:

- You can file a formal complaint.** If you want a hearing before a judge, you must file a formal complaint. By filing a formal complaint, you assure yourself the opportunity to take part in hearings about the rate increase request. All complaints must be filed with the PUC before March 29, 2026. If no formal complaints are filed, the Commission may grant all, some or none of the request without holding a hearing before a judge.
- You can send us a letter explaining why you object to the requested rate increase.** Sometimes there is information in these letters that makes us aware of problems with the Company's service or management. This information can be helpful when we investigate the rate request. Send your letter or request for a formal complaint form to the Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission, Post Office Box 3265, Harrisburg, PA 17105-3265.
- You can be a witness at a public input hearing.** Public input hearings are held if the Commission opens an investigation of the company's rate increase request and if there is a large number of customers interested in the case. At these hearings you have the opportunity to present your views in person to the PUC judge presiding in the case and the Company representatives. All testimony given "under oath" becomes part of the official rate case record. These hearings are held in the service area of the Company.

For more information, call the PUC at 1-800-692-7380. You may leave your name and address so you can be notified of any public input hearings that may be scheduled in this case.



Groundhog Day festivities will be held Monday in Punxsutawney, with several streets near Gobbler's Knob to be closed from 3 a.m. to 10 a.m.

Ridge Road to Gobbler's Knob. All pedestrian traffic must enter from Woodland Extension at the main entrance of Gobbler's Knob. All pedestrians may access Gobbler's Knob via sidewalks, the trail beside Woodland Extension while limiting pedestrian traffic on roadways for the safety of everyone. Any resident who lives on these roadways will be asked for proof of residence to access their residence during the closure. Police remind everyone to dress appropriately for the cold weather, including footwear. PSP Punxsutawney wants everyone to have a safe and happy Groundhog's Day.

Proof of Publication of Notice in Leader Times

Under the Act of July 9, 1976, P.L. 877, No. 160

State of Pennsylvania

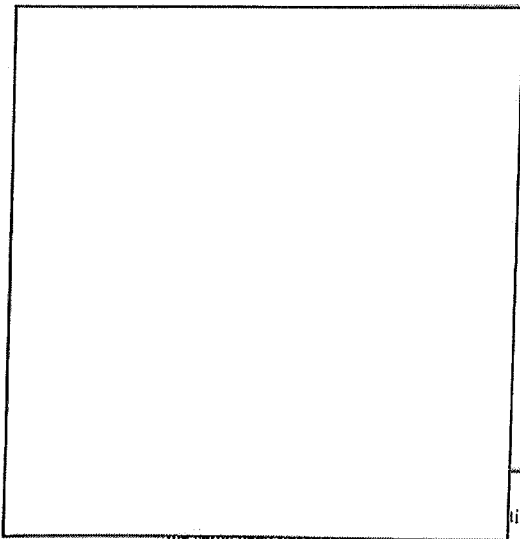
County of Armstrong

Tammy Bish, Publisher of West Penn Media, a corporation of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, publisher of the Leader Times, of the County State aforesaid, being duly sworn, deposes and says that the Leader Times, a newspaper of general circulation published at Kittanning, County and State aforesaid, was established January 10, 1898, since which date the Leader Times has been regularly issued in said county, and that the printed notice or publication attached hereto is exactly the same as printed and published in the regular editions and issues of the said Leader Times on the following dates.

_____ the 29th of January, 2026 _____

Affiant further deposes that she is an officer duly authorized by West Penn Media, publisher of the Leader Times, a newspaper of general circulation to verify the foregoing statement under oath, and affiant is not interested in the subject matter of the foresaid notice or advertisement, and that all allegations in the foregoing statements as to time, place and character of publication are true.

Copy of Notice or Publication



_____, Leader Times
Sworn to and subscribed before me this 13th of Feb, 2026

Julia A Jordan

My Commission Expires: _____

Commonwealth of Pennsylvania - Notary Seal
JULIA A JORDAN - Notary Public
Armstrong County
My Commission Expires June 28, 2028
Commission Number 1080564

Statement of Advertising Costs

To Leader Times
For publishing the notice or publication attached \$ 550.00
Probating same\$ _____

Publisher's Receipt for Advertising Costs
_____, hereby acknowledges receipt of the aforesaid notice and publication cost and certifies that

Maine plane crash victims include event planner and corporate pilot

PORTLAND, Maine (AP)—As snow from a massive storm began to fall in Bangor, Maine, on Sunday night, people who had stopped to refuel a Paris-bound luxury jet prepared for takeoff. None would survive the crash that followed, the cause of which remains unknown.

A departing plane ahead of them radioed to the tower that visibility wasn't great and they chose not to fly, but the winds were relatively mild and the snow, powdery and fine in the near-zero temperatures, had accumulated only a dusting. Airport officials say the plane went through the standard de-icing process and got in line with other jets that took off safely.

The plane, however, crashed during takeoff, leaving the jet burning and inverted on the tarmac, killing everyone on board. Among them a corporate pilot who was recently hired at the Texas law firm linked to the crash, and an event planner who had worked with the firm on previous occasions. Lakewood Church in Houston, run by Joel Osteen Ministries, confirmed on Tuesday that longtime employee Shawna Collins, 53, was among those killed. Collins' social media posts show her work organizing parties and events in Italy, Hawaii and elsewhere, for clients that included Arnold and Itkin Trial Lawyers, the Houston law firm whose co-founder is listed on the plane's registration.

"Everybody loved her. She just had that kind of personality," church spokesperson Donald Hoff Jr. told The Associated Press on Tuesday. Victims include a pilot new to firm, a mom planning a wedding and the family of pilot Jacob Hosmer, 47, confirmed his death on Tuesday but declined to comment. Hosmer started working for Arnold and Itkin seven months ago as a "team captain," according to his LinkedIn page. He had been a licensed flight instructor and the managing member of Platinum Skies Aviation LLC, incorporated in Texas in late 2024, online records show.

A founding partner of the firm is listed as the agent for the company that owns the plane. The personal injury firm — whose partners are major donors to the University of Texas football and other causes — has so far declined to identify the passengers or comment on the crash.

The National Transportation Safety Board on Tuesday began its investigation while Bangor International Airport remained closed to preserve the scene where the two crew and four passengers aboard the plane died in the Sunday evening crash. Collins, who was married with children and grandchildren, had also been helping plan her daughter's wedding set for this year, Hoff said. "She was very good at it. Everybody wanted her to plan her events for them," he said. The church, in a statement, called Collins "a light that brightened our days."

NTSB begins investigation into crash. The Bombardier Challenger 600 flipped over and burned on takeoff at around 7:45 p.m. after stopping along its journey from Houston to Paris to refuel. It remained stuck on Tuesday after the weather or cold played a role in the crash as investigators were just beginning their work. Bangor police were waiting for the NTSB to allow them to access the plane to identify the victims and, with the state coroner's office, care for their bodies. Dozens of scheduled flights had been impacted, the airport said. The FAA, in an updated accident statement on Tuesday, said the plane "crashed under unknown circumstances on departure, came to rest inverted and caught on fire."

The international airport in Bangor, about 200 miles (320 kilometers) north of Boston, is one of the closest in the U.S. to Europe and is often used to refuel private jets flying overseas. The Bombardier was headed for France when it crashed. NTSB officials said they would have an update on Wednesday. A preliminary report outlining the facts of the crash should be released in about a month, but the final version likely won't be published for more than a year. Let's joining partners revealed after two crashes 20 years ago. The Bombardier Challenger 600 is a wide-bodied business jet configured for nine to 11 passengers. It was launched in 1980 as the first private jet with a "walk-about cabin" and remains a popular charter option, according to aircharter.com. Experts say the weather and questions about whether ice accumulating on the wings kept the plane from getting airborne — as has happened at least twice before on that plane model — will likely be an initial focus by the NTSB.

Your baby could qualify for \$1,000 with a Trump Account. Here's what to know

BY MAKIYA SEMINERA AND MOKHIA BALINGIT Associated Press

As a continuation of President Donald Trump's pitch to Americans on affordability and the economy under his administration, the U.S. Treasury and White House are celebrating the upcoming launch of a program they view as a key milestone: Trump Accounts.

A provision of Trump's tax legislation, Trump Accounts are meant to give \$1,000 to every newborn, so long as their parents open an account. That money is then invested in the stock market by private firms, and the child can access the money when they turn 18.

A U.S. Treasury event Wednesday brings together an assortment of politicians and celebrities — from Texas Republican Sen. Ted Cruz to rapper Nicki Minaj — to discuss the program and its potential impact on the economy. Backers of Trump Accounts have said they're a way to help children from low-income households build wealth.

Here's what you need to know about Trump Accounts and how to claim them.

What is a Trump Account? It's a new savings tool where money is invested in the stock market on behalf of a child. The child can't access the money until they turn 18 and can only use it for specific purposes, such as paying tuition, starting a business or making a down payment on a home.

After a parent opens an account, the U.S. Treasury will contribute \$1,000 for newborns. Private banks and brokerages will manage the money, which must be invested in U.S. equity index funds that track the stock market and charge the accounts no more than 0.10% in annual fees.

Parents can contribute up to \$2,500 annually in pretax income, much like they do for retirement accounts. Parents' employers, relatives, friends, local government and philanthropic groups can also pitch in. Yearly contributions are capped at \$5,000, but contributions from governments and charities don't count toward that total.

Who gets \$1,000? As part of the initiative's launch, parents of older children

are also encouraged to open accounts, but they won't get the \$1,000 bonus. That money is only reserved for babies born during the calendar years of the Trump administration.

To qualify for the \$1,000 seed money, a baby must be a U.S. citizen, have a Social Security number and be born between Jan. 1, 2025, and Dec. 31, 2028. Any parent can open an account for a qualifying child, regardless of the parent's immigration status.

It's important to note that the child won't be able to access the money until they turn 18, except in rare circumstances, so it can't help with immediate expenses. And disbursements from the accounts will be subject to taxes. What about older children?

Children born before 2025 won't qualify for the \$1,000 incentive, but parents can still open accounts for them as long as they're under 18. Parents can still invest up to \$2,500 pretax for those kids.

In December, billionaires Michael and Susan Dell announced a \$6.25 billion donation that will allow some children who are 10 and under to receive \$250 in seed money if their parents open an account. That money is reserved for kids who live in ZIP codes with a median family income of \$150,000 or less and who won't get the \$1,000 seed money from the Treasury.

A few weeks later, hedge fund founder Ray Dalio and his wife Barbara pledged \$75 million for kids under 10 in Connecticut, where Dalio lives. That would amount to \$250 for 300,000 children in qualifying ZIP codes. Those large contributions are part of an effort by the U.S. Treasury — dubbed the "50 State Challenge" by Secretary Scott Bessent — to encourage wealthy philanthropic donors to pitch in.

Other corporations participating in the program include Uber, Mastercard, BlackRock, Visa and Charles Schwab, according to the Trump Accounts website.

How do I open a Trump Account for my kids?

The accounts won't be open for contributions until July 2026, but parents of eligible kids can sign up using Form 4547 from the Internal Revenue Service. Parents can fill out the form when filing taxes this year or when the administration opens an online portal this summer.

It's one storm after another for much of the JS, but the next one's path is uncertain

HOUSTON (AP)—Winter's brutal grip on the U.S. East is not letting up, with coming days bringing subfreezing temperatures that will plunge deep into what had been a toasty Florida peninsula and a powerful blizzard forecast that may strike the Atlantic coast.

Deep cold is forecast to stick around at least into the first week of February.

Meteorologists are also watching what could become a "bomb cyclone" — a quickly intensifying storm that's a winter version of a hurricane — forming off the Carolinas Friday night into Saturday. "A major winter storm appears to be coming to the Carolinas," said meteorologist Peter Mullinax of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's Weather Prediction Center.

That storm could dump snow — at least 6 inches (15 centimeters) with white-out conditions — in the Carolinas, northern Georgia and southern Virginia. After that, it could turn and plow through the Interstate 95 corridor late Saturday into Sunday to dump loads more snow from Washington to Boston, further paralyzing much of the country. Or it could deliver a glancing blow, mostly striking places like Cape Cod. Alternatively, it could just veer off harmlessly to sea. Meteorologists and forecast models aren't yet settling on a single outcome.

"The confidence is much higher than in the coastal Carolinas and Virginia that there will be significant snowfall this weekend," said James Belanger, vice president for meteorology at the Weather Channel and its parent company. "The real question is going to be the trajectory it takes" from the south and east, meteorologist Ryan Maue, a former NOAA chief scientist, said for the mid-Atlantic and north is a "boom or bust" situation. "If it happens to go along the coast" it's going to be a big-time event.

Models still disagree on storm track. On Tuesday forecast models

were all over the place, from out to sea to inland toward Philadelphia. By Wednesday morning they started to agree that "we're likely to see some form of a powerful coastal storm somewhere east of North Carolina, off the Delmarva coast, but they still disagree as to where," Mullinax said.

Chances of the storm veering away from the East Coast entirely had diminished Wednesday morning, but hadn't disappeared altogether, Mullinax said.

Of all the options, "from D.C. up to New York is probably the most unclear," Mullinax said. He said a mere 50-mile (80-kilometer) difference in the storm's center will be critical. AccuWeather Senior Meteorologist Dan Pydynowski said it may be hard for the southern mid-Atlantic to avoid some kind of snow, whether a little or a lot.

That storm will hold longer than the last one. This weekend's storm will differ from the previous storm, which started with moist air from the Pacific that combined with a deep plume of Arctic air from an elongated polar vortex supplemented by more moisture from the south and east, meteorologists said.

The last storm had little wind. This one will generate high winds, even if the snow misses the Washington area, generating gusts that could still reach 40 mph (65 kph), plunging wind chills near subzero Fahrenheit (minus 18 Celsius), Mullinax said.

"It looks like a pretty strong and explosive storm so everybody is going to have some gusty winds," Pydynowski said, even inland places that won't come close to getting snow like Pittsburgh.

Strong winds may take daytime temperatures in the teens there down to feeling like they are below zero, he said.

"This is what we'd consider more of a classic nor'easter," Belanger said, describing a storm forming around the U.S. Gulf Coast crossing into the Atlantic and going up that coast.

Notice of Proposed Rate Changes

To Our Customers:

National Fuel Gas Distribution Corporation (National Fuel or Company) is filing a request with the Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission (PUC) to increase your gas distribution rates as of March 29, 2026. This notice describes the Company's rate request, the PUC's role, and what actions you can take.

The Company has requested a base rate increase of \$197 million per year. This filing also includes a request for approval of the following alternative rate mechanisms in accordance with 66 Pa. C.S. § 1330.1) Permanent Weather Normalization Adjustment; 2) Energy Efficiency (EE) pilot program for an additional \$0.7 million per year to be recovered from residential customers through a separate rider. Additionally, the Company has proposed the reactivation of the OPEB rider 1 surcredit to refund \$7.2 million for customer bill relief.

If the Company's entire request is approved, the total bill for a residential customer using 80 ccf per month would increase from \$6349 to \$9028 per month, or by 83% including the proposed EE rider, from \$8343 to \$8844 per month, or by 5.9% when including the proposed OPEB rider 1 surcredit extension.

The total bill for a small commercial customer using 257 ccf per month would increase from \$18924 to \$20121 per month or by 6.5%, from \$18924 to \$19811 per month, or by 5.1% when including the proposed OPEB rider 1 surcredit extension.

The total bill for an intermediate volume industrial customer using 802 MCF monthly would increase from \$190513 to \$2,039,29 per month, or by 7.0%, from \$19,051.3 to \$19,843.6 per month, or by 4.2% when including the proposed OPEB rider 1 surcredit extension.

To find out your customer class or how the requested increase may affect your gas bill, contact National Fuel at 1-800-365-3234. The rates requested by the Company may be found in Supplement No. 294 to Tariff Gas - Pa, P.U.C. No. 9. You may examine the material filed with the PUC, which explains the requested increase and the reasons for it. A copy of this material is kept at National Fuels Consumer Assistance Centers. Upon request, the Company will send you a statement of reasons for Supplement No. 294 explaining why the Company requested the rate increases.

The state agency which approves rates for public utilities is the PUC. The PUC will examine the requested rate increase and can prevent existing rates from changing until it investigates and/or holds hearings on the request. The Company must prove that the requested rates are reasonable. After examining the evidence, the PUC may grant all, some, or none of the request or may reduce existing rates.

The PUC may change the amount of the rate increase or decrease requested by the utility for each customer class. As a result, the rate charged to you may be different than the rate requested by the Company and shown above.

There are three ways to challenge a company's request to change its rates:

- You can file a formal complaint.** If you want a hearing before a judge, you must file a formal complaint. By filing a formal complaint, you assure yourself the opportunity to take part in hearings about the rate increase request. All complaints should be filed with the PUC before March 29, 2026. If no formal complaints are filed, the Commission may grant all, some or none of the request without holding a hearing before a judge.
- You can send us a letter explaining why you object to the requested rate increase.** Sometimes there is information in these letters that makes us aware of problems with the Company's service or management. This information can be helpful to us in our investigations. Send your letter or request for a formal complaint form to the Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission, Post Office Box 3265, Harrisburg, PA 17105-3265.
- You can be a witness at a public input hearing.** Public input hearings are held if the Commission opens an investigation of the company's rate increase request and if there is a large number of customers interested in the case. At these hearings you have the opportunity to present your views in person to the PUC and to ask us questions. You and the Company representatives. All testimony given "under oath" becomes part of the official rate case record. These hearings are held in the service area of the Company.

For more information, call the PUC at 1-800-692-7380. You may leave your name and address so you can be notified of any public input hearings that may be scheduled in this case.

Trump signals interest in easing tensions, but Minneapolis sees little change on the streets

MINNEAPOLIS (AP) —

President Donald Trump seemed to signal a willingness to ease tensions in Minneapolis after a second deadly shooting by federal immigration agents, but there was little evidence Wednesday of any significant changes after weeks of harsh rhetoric and clashes with protesters.

The strain was evident when Trump made a leadership charge by sending his top border adviser to Minnesota to take charge of the immigration crackdown. That was followed by seemingly conciliatory remarks about the Democratic governor and mayor.

Trump said he and Gov. Tim Walz, whom he criticized for weeks, were on "a similar wavelength" following a phone call. After a conversation with Mayor Jacob Frey, the president praised the discussion and declared that "lots of progress is being made."

But on city streets, there were few signs of a shift. Immigration enforcement operations and confrontations with activists continued Wednesday in Minneapolis.

apolis and St. Paul.

A group of protesters blew whistles and pointed out federal officers in a vehicle on a north Minneapolis street.

When the officers' vehicle moved, a small convoy of activists followed in their cars for a few blocks until the officers stopped again.

Associated Press journalists were in the neighborhood covering the enforcement actions. When the journalists got out of their car to document the encounter, officers with the federal Bureau of Prisons pushed one of them, threatened them with arrest and told them to get back in their car despite the reporters' identifying themselves as media.

Officers from multiple federal agencies have been involved in the enforcement operations. From their car, the AP journalists saw at least one person being pepper sprayed and one detained, though it was unclear if that person was the target of the operation or a protester.

Wall Street drifts around its record while the dollar's value stabilizes

By STAN CHOE Associated Press

NEW YORK — The U.S. stock market is drifting around its all-time high on Wednesday, while the U.S. dollar's value stabilizes against other currencies after falling to its lowest level in nearly four years.

The S&P 500 fell 0.1%, closing off its latest record. The Dow Jones Industrial Average was up 5 points, or less than 0.1%, as of 1:39 p.m. Eastern time, and the Nasdaq composite rose 0.1%.

Some Big Tech companies helped support the market following an encouraging report from ASML. The Dutch company, whose machinery helps make chips, gave a forecast for 2026 revenue that topped analysts' expectations.

ASML's customers have been notably more encouraged about the medium term, CEO Christophe Fouquet said, mostly because of expectations for "the sustainability" of demand related to the artificial-intelligence boom. That helped allay some concerns that the AI frenzy has

gone overboard and created a potential bubble that may burst.

Nvidia, the stock that's become the poster child of the AI boom, climbed 1.7% and was the strongest single force lifting the S&P 500. ASML's stock that trades in the United States swung from an early gain to a drop of 2.7%.

Stocks elsewhere in the market were mixed following the latest flurry of profit reports.

Seagate Technology jumped 20.6% for one of the market's biggest gains after the seller of hard drives and other data-storage products reported bigger profit and revenue than analysts expected. CEO Dave Mosley cited AI applications for its strong performance, among other things.

Starbucks climbed 1.2% after its revenue for the latest quarter met analysts' expectations, thanks in part to a viral bear cup. That was even though its profit for the end of 2025 fell short of analysts' targets.

Elevated Health rose 6.2% after reporting a stronger profit than analysts expected.

PROOF OF PUBLICATION

Copy of Notice of Publication

PROOF OF PUBLICATION OF NOTICE IN

THE MEADVILLE TRIBUNE

Under Act No. 587 Approved May 16, 1929

STATE OF PENNSYLVANIA
COUNTY OF CRAWFORD SS.

I, Devon C. Stout, being duly sworn say that I am Publisher of The Meadville Tribune, owned and published by CNHI, LLC., of the County and State aforesaid, and that The Meadville Tribune, a newspaper of general circulation published at 947-949 Federal Court, City of Meadville, County and State aforesaid, was established in 1884, since which time The Meadville Tribune has been regularly issued in said county and that the printed notice of publication attached hereto is exactly the same as was printed and published in the regular editions and issues of the said Meadville Tribune on the following dates, viz.

The 29th of January, 2026

Affiant deposes that he is an officer duly authorized by CNHI, LLC., Publisher of the said Meadville Tribune, a newspaper of general circulation, to verify the foregoing statement under oath, and affiant is not interested in the subject matter of the aforesaid notice or advertisement, and that all allegations in the foregoing statements as to time, place and character of publication are true.

This affidavit is made under and by virtue of a resolution of the Board of Directors of CNHI, LLC. duly passed on the 1st day of February 1999, authorizing and directing this affiant to make and verify this and all other proofs of publication of notices and advertisements thereafter to be published in The Meadville Tribune which may require such proof according to the requirements of the Act of May, 1929, P. L. 1784



The Meadville Tribune,
a Division of CNHI, LLC.

Commonwealth of Pennsylvania - Notary Seal
KAREN A. NESTOR - Notary Public
Mercer County
My Commission Expires April 10, 2027
Commission Number 1198337

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 2nd of February, 2026

National Fuel Gas Distribution Corporation

Public Notice Notice of Proposed Rate Changes

To Our Customers:

National Fuel Gas Distribution Corporation (National Fuel or Company) is filing a request with the Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission (PUC) to increase your gas distribution rates as of March 29, 2026. This notice describes the Company's rate request, the PUC's role, and what actions you can take.

The Company has requested a base rate increase of \$19.7 million per year. This filing also includes a request for approval of the following alternative rate mechanisms in accordance with 66 Pa. C.S. § 1330: 1) Permanent Weather Normalization Adjustment; 2) Energy Efficiency (EE) pilot program for an additional \$0.7 million per year to be recovered from residential customers through a separate rider. Additionally, the Company has proposed the reactivation of the OPEB rider I surcredit to refund \$7.2 million for customer bill relief.

If the Company's entire request is approved, the total bill for a residential customer using 80 ccf per month would increase from \$83.49 to \$90.28 per month, or by 8.1% including the proposed EE rider. From \$83.49 to \$88.44 per month, or by 5.9% when including the proposed OPEB rider I surcredit extension.

The total bill for a small commercial customer using 257 ccf per month would increase from \$189.24 to \$201.21 per month or by 6.5%. From \$189.24 to \$198.11 per month, or by 5.1% when including the proposed OPEB rider I surcredit extension.

The total bill for an intermediate volume industrial customer using 802 Mcf monthly would increase from \$1,905.13 to \$2,039.29 per month, or by 7.0%. From \$1,905.13 to \$1,984.36 per month, or by 4.2% when including the proposed OPEB rider I surcredit extension.

To find out your customer class or how the requested increase may affect your gas bill, contact National Fuel at 1-800-365-3234. The rates requested by the Company may be found in Supplement No. 294 to Tariff Gas - Pa. P.U.C. No. 9. You may examine the material filed with the PUC, which explains the requested increase and the reasons for it. A copy of this material is kept at National Fuels Consumer Assistance Centers. Upon request, the Company will send you a statement of reasons for Supplement No. 294 explaining why the Company requested the rate increase.

The state agency which approves rates for public utilities is the PUC. The PUC will examine the requested rate increase and can prevent existing rates from changing until it investigates and/or holds hearings on the request. The Company must prove that the requested rates are reasonable. After examining the evidence, the PUC may grant all, some, or none of the request or may reduce existing rates.

The PUC may change the amount of the rate increase or decrease requested by the utility for each customer class. As a result, the rate charged to you may be different than the rate requested by the Company and shown above.

There are three ways to challenge a company's request to change its rates:

1. You can file a formal complaint. If you want a hearing before a judge, you must file a formal complaint. By filing a formal complaint, you assure yourself the opportunity to take part in hearings about the rate increase request. All complaints should be filed with the PUC before March 29, 2026. If no formal complaints are filed, the Commission may grant all, some or none of the request without holding a hearing before a judge.

2. You can send us a letter explaining why you object to the requested rate increase. Sometimes there is information in these letters that makes us aware of problems with the Company's service or management. This information can be helpful when we investigate the rate request. Send your letter or request for a formal complaint form to the Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission, Post Office Box 3265, Harrisburg, PA 17105-3265.

3. You can be a witness at a public input hearing. Public input hearings are held if the Commission opens an investigation of the company's rate increase request and if there is a large number of customers interested in the case. At these hearings you have the opportunity to present your views in person to the PUC judge hearing the case and the Company representatives. All testimony given under oath becomes part of the official rate case record. These hearings are held in the service area of the Company.

For more information, call the PUC at 1-800-692-7380. You may leave your name and address so you can be notified of any public input hearings that may be scheduled in this case.

Worries deepen in South after days of grappling with snow, ice and outages

ASSOCIATED PRESS

JACKSON, Miss. — Conditions were growing more dire in parts of the South still reeling from subfreezing temperatures and widespread power outages as vehicles got stranded for hours on major highways and officials warned Wednesday that people stuck at home were running out of food, medicine and other essentials.

Mississippi dispatched 135 snowplows and National Guard troops equipped with wheelers to sections of Interstates 55 and 22 gridlocked by vehicles abandoned in the state's ice-stricken northern region. Tens of thousands of homes and businesses remained without power as cold daytime temperatures sunk below freezing overnight in a region unaccustomed and ill-equipped for such weather.

Cars and semitrucks trying to navigate the frozen highways single-file began getting stuck Tuesday. No injuries were reported, the Mississippi Department of Public Safety said. But one driver told The Associated Press she feared she might freeze to death on I-22 when her car sat idle for more than 14 hours.

"I just thought that we were going to die there," said Samantha Lewis, 78, who got stuck on a road trip with a friend. "There was no way to go, nothing to do, no one to save us."

The growing misery and anxiety comes amid what Mississippi officials say is the state's worst winter storm in more than 30 years. Roughly 30,500 homes and businesses remained without power Wednesday, the vast majority of them in Tennessee and Mississippi. At least 50 people have died across the U.S. in states afflicted by the dangerous cold.

In Hardin County, Tennessee, at the Mississippi state line, many people remain trapped in homes without electricity because of roads made impassable by ice and fallen trees, said Lt. Rae Sliger, the county's emergency management director. Sliger said people who were prepared to manage a couple of days without power can't go much longer without help.

"They're cold, they don't have power, they don't have heat, they're out of propane, they're out of wood, they're out of kerosene for their kerosene heaters," she said. "They have no food, they have no additional fuel for their alternative heating sources, so they're needing out."

In northeast Mississippi, emergency managers in Alcorn County were also receiving "calls of desperation" from people running out of food, water, medication and other supplies, said Evan Gibens, the emergency agency's director. He said dispatchers who have been sleeping at work since Friday have fielded more than 2,000 calls.

"We are doing everything we possibly can," said Gibens, noting 200 people were staying at a local arena being used as a warming shelter. More than 100,000 outages remained in Nashville, Tennessee, where downed trees and snapped power lines blocked access to some areas. Utility workers will need at least the weekend, if not longer, to finish restoring power, said Brent Baker, a Nashville Electric Service vice president.

Forecasters say the subfreezing weather will persist in the eastern U.S. into February, with a new influx of arctic air arriving this weekend. There's a growing chance for heavy snow in the Carolinas and Virginia.

"The National Weather Service said chances of additional, significant snowfall are low in places like Nashville, but weekend temperatures will reach dangerously low single digits with wind chills below zero.

Human Relations Act of 1995, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, the Family and Medical Leave Act of 1993, the Genetic Information Nondiscrimination Act and the Equal Employment Opportunity Act, please be informed that it is the policy of the Alliance Visiting Nurses to admit and treat all persons without regard to race, color, ancestry, national origin, age, sex, disability, religious creed, disability, marital status, or any other category that may be protected under applicable law.

This non-discriminatory policy applies to all applicants, employees, and physicians of the Alliance Visiting Nurses. We are an equal opportunity employer and provide employment, compensation, and other terms and conditions of employment without regard to race, color, ancestry, national origin, age, sex, disability, religious creed, disability, marital status, or any other category that may be protected under applicable law.

If you are interested in this position, please send your resume and cover letter to: Controlled Molding, 3243 Perry Highway, Hadley, PA 16130 or email to: sales@controlledmolding.com

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105 PUBLIC NOTICES grid containing various legal notices, public notices, and classifieds.

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Public Notice

Notice of Proposed Rate Changes

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AFFIDAVIT OF INSERTION

Please Fill out Information Below:

Name of Publication: The Derrick

City, State: Oil City, Pa 16301

Client name: National Fuel

Insertion Order 57101

Date of Insertion: 01/29/26

Caption: National Fuel Jan. 2026

Ad Size: 3 x 10.5

Please Return Completed Affidavit to:

MANSI Media

3899 North Front Street

Harrisburg, PA 17110

E-mail: tearsheets@mansimedia.com

Fax: 717-703-3022

My signature verifies that this ad was inserted as scheduled according to the above specifications.



Signature

1/29/26

Date

Robert Greys

Name (Please Print)

Weather

National weather AccuWeather.com
Forecast for Thursday, January 29, 2026
Bands separate high temperature zones for the day.

Local forecast
Today: Partly sunny, High 14.
Tonight: Cloudy, Low -8.
Friday: Mostly cloudy, High 14, Low -8.

Extended forecast
Saturday: Partly sunny, High 14, Low 0.
Sunday: Mostly sunny, High 16, Low 3.
Monday: Partly sunny, High 23, Low 13.

NATIONAL SUMMARY: Across the Great Lakes, lake-effect snow showers will continue to bring slippery travel and reduced visibility today. Meanwhile, a quick burst of snow will travel from Montana to Nebraska. A storm will bring another round of drizzle and mountain snow to the Pacific Northwest. The rest of the nation can expect dry, but cold weather.

Gas smell at nursing home was reported hours before explosion

HARRISBURG (AP) — Hours before a deadly explosion ripped through a Pennsylvania nursing home last month, staff grew concerned about the smell of natural gas on several floors and brought in workers from the local utility company to check it out, federal regulators said Wednesday.

The preliminary report by the National Transportation Safety Board provides details about the three hours that passed between the report of a gas odor and the thunderous blast in Bristol, just outside Philadelphia, as well as how utility workers were on the scene for much of that time. It also notes that a utility worker traced the leak to a valve in a meter set in the basement boiler room.

While the presence of utility workers and witness accounts of a heavy gas smell in the explosion's aftermath raised questions about a possible leak, PECO had said at the time it could not determine the cause or whether its equipment was involved.

Two residents and an employee were killed and about 20 people injured, including one of the utility workers, just a few days before Christmas. Part of the building collapsed, trapping people inside, as emergency workers, staff and even medics from a nearby hospital rushed to evacuate people.

Exelon, PECO's parent company, shut off the gas flow to the facility almost two hours after the explosion, according to the report. It's not clear why it took that long to do so.

Investigators plan to focus on Exelon's pipeline safety management and how it trains people, their qualifications, "odor complaint response" and other factors.

With the new report, a PECO spokesperson said the company recognizes "the importance of continuous improvement and vigilance with respect to the safe and reliable delivery of electric and natural gas service." The emailed statement expressed sympathy to the victims and their families, to displaced residents and to the wider community.

According to the report, a maintenance director at Bristol Health & Rehab Center reported the smell of natural gas in the basement on Dec. 23 and called the utility company. The PECO worker arrived at Bristol Health & Rehab Center just before noon, about an hour after the odor was detected. Staff also smelled gas on the first and second floors.

The Exelon energy technician determined there was a leak on a meter set valve in the basement and called for help fixing it. A meter set includes the meter, regulator, piping, valves and fittings.

An Exelon foreman sent out a meter service technician to make the repair. He arrived at about 1:20 p.m. The explosion occurred at around 2:15 p.m.

Mullally confirmed as archbishop of Canterbury

LONDON (AP) — Sarah Mullally walked into St. Paul's Cathedral on Wednesday morning as the bishop of London. When she walked out in the afternoon as bells rang out, she was the spiritual leader of millions of Anglicans around the world.

Mullally, 63, became the archbishop of Canterbury, making her the first woman to lead the Church of England. The worldwide Anglican Communion, which includes the Episcopal Church in the U.S., has no formal head, but the archbishop traditionally has been seen as its spiritual leader.

As the choir sang an anthem by Edward Elgar, the cancer nurse turned cleric officially took up the responsibilities of her new job as bevviged judge presided over a legal ceremony confirming her appointment, which was announced almost four months ago.

As the lengthy process came to a close and her election was confirmed, Mullally stood and faced the congregation to loud applause.

"We welcome you," the bishops surrounding her shouted in unison.

The so-called Confirmation of Election service marks a major milestone for the Church of England, which ordained its first female priest in 1994 and its first female bishop in 2015. The church traces its roots to the 16th century when the English church broke away from the Roman Catholic Church during the reign of King Henry VIII.



Jefferson County Commissioners, from left, Jeff Pisarcik, Scott North and Mark Humes receive a flag commemorating America 250 from Executive Director Cassandra Coleman on Tuesday in Brookville.

Jefferson County kicks off America 250 celebrations

BY RANDY BARTLEY
Staff writer

Jefferson County Commissioner Scott North brought forward some local history as he outlined the context for the opening of the America 250 celebration on Tuesday.

North said Jefferson County was founded in 1804 when Thomas Jefferson, the primary architect of the Declaration of Independence, was president.

"Jefferson County is tied directly to this milestone," he said.

"Back in 1804, we were a frontier area. In our communities, you will find pioneer families, Revolutionary War and War of 1812 veterans. Those people helped establish the communities we have today," North said. "They made our nation, our state and our county so remarkable."

America 250 PA Executive Director Cassandra Coleman also spoke at the event.

"We are gathered here to start America's 250th anniversary," Coleman said. "Today's kickoff recognizes Jefferson County as a steward of its history and an active participant in America's

250th anniversary."

As part of their work, Coleman said the committee awarded a \$20,000 grant to the annual Brookway Old Fashioned Fourth of July Celebration. She noted the group also participated in the planting of a "Liberty Tree" on Gohbler's Knob, the home of groundhog Punxsutawney Phil and the installation of a Liberty Bell replica at the Punxsutawney Civic Center.

"Together, these efforts connect Jefferson County's past to the people who are shaping the future," she said.

State Rep. Brian Smith, who represents the 66th District, extended his thanks to the 250th Committee for coming to Jefferson County.

"This is more than just a milestone," he said. "It is an opportunity to reflect on where we have been, celebrate who we are and imagine a future we can build together. Jefferson County has a proud history rooted in resiliency, hard work and community spirit. We value freedom, innovation and neighborly care."

Smith said the county has an opportunity in 2026 to showcase that heritage while inspiring the next generation to carry it forward. He challenged citizens to get involved to "write the next chapter of the American story."

"PA 250 has always been committed to one mission: reaching every Pennsylvanian," Coleman said.

He said that would be accomplished through several signature events designed to "meet communities where they are."

The events include a replica Liberty Bell program, a concert series, a scholarship program for high school seniors, the placement of American flags on veterans' graves, a lecture series, a health and wellness initiative and a mobile unit. The events will be broadcast by PCN.

"All of this is part of a shared effort," Coleman said. "No matter where you live in Pennsylvania, there is a place for you in this milestone to learn, to serve, to reflect and, most importantly, for all of us to celebrate together."

Also attending were representatives from Gov. Josh Shapiro's office, the office of U.S. Rep. Glenn Thompson, the office of state Sen. Cris Dush and the office of state Treasurer Stacy Garrity.

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GETTING IT RIGHT

A story in Monday's newspaper about the Oil City chapter of the Izaak Walton League celebrating its 100-year anniversary contained an error.

The league's history says a women's hand-glove league was created in partnership with the Oil City YWCA.

Additionally, a story in Tuesday's newspaper about Monday's Franklin Area School Board meeting contained an error.

District resident Elizabeth Stumpf asked that the physical activity component of the health and physical education requirement be allowed to be exempt for students who participate in PIAA (Pennsylvania Interscholastic Athletic Association) practices.

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If the Company's entire request is approved, the total bill for a residential customer using 80 ccf per month would increase from \$83.49 to \$90.29 per month, or by 8% including the proposed EE rider, from \$83.49 to \$88.44 per month, or by 5.9% when including the proposed OPEB rider 1 surcredit extension.

The total bill for a small commercial customer using 257 ccf per month would increase from \$189.24 to \$201.21 per month or by 6.5%, from \$189.24 to \$193.31 per month, or by 5.1% when including the proposed OPEB rider 1 surcredit extension.

The total bill for an intermediate volume industrial customer using 902 Mcf monthly would increase from \$1,905.13 to \$2,039.29 per month, or by 7.0%, from \$1,905.13 to \$1,984.26 per month, or by 4.2% when including the proposed OPEB rider 1 surcredit extension.

To find out your customer class or how the requested increase may affect your gas bill, contact National Fuel at 1-800-365-3234. The rates requested by the Company may be found in Supplement No. 294 to Tariff Gas - Pa, PUC, No. 9. You may examine the material filed with the PUC, which explains the requested increase and the reasons for it. A copy of this material is kept at National Fuel's Consumer Assistance Centers. Upon request, the Company will send you a statement of reasons for Supplement No. 294 explaining why the Company requested the rate increase.

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The PUC may change the amount of the rate increase or decrease requested by the utility for each customer class. As a result, the rate charged to you may be different than the rate requested by the Company and shown above.

There are three ways to challenge a company's request to change its rates.

- You can file a formal complaint.** If you want a hearing before a judge, you must file a formal complaint. By filing a formal complaint, you assure yourself the opportunity to take part in hearings about the rate increase request. All complaints should be filed with the PUC before March 29, 2026. If no formal complaints are filed, the Commission may grant all, some or none of the request without holding a hearing before a judge.
- You can send us a letter explaining why you object to the requested rate increase.** Sometimes there is information in these letters that makes us aware of problems with the Company's service or management. This information can be helpful when we investigate the rate request. Send your letter or request for a formal complaint form to the Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission, Post Office Box 3265, Harrisburg, PA 17105-3265.
- You can be a witness at a public input hearing.** Public input hearings are held if the Commission opens an investigation of the company's rate increase request and if there is a large number of customers interested in the case. At these hearings you have the opportunity to present your views in person to the PUC hearing the case and the Company representatives. All testimony given "under oath" becomes part of the official rate case record. These hearings are held in the service area of the Company.

For more information, call the PUC at 1-800-692-7380. You may leave your name and address so you can be notified of any public input hearings that may be scheduled in this case.

Ten people die in NYC's frigid cold

NEW YORK (AP) — One man was discovered under a layer of snow on a park bench in Queens. Another was found just steps from a Manhattan hospital. Yet another was pronounced dead on the ground beneath an elevated train line in the Bronx.

Each is among a growing number of people — at least 10, as of Tuesday — who died after being exposed to the bitter cold that has persisted in New York City since late last Friday.

Their causes of death are still under investigation, but some showed signs of having succumbed to hypothermia. Officials said several victims

were believed to have been living on the streets. At least six of the fatalities came early Saturday, as the temperature in the city fell to 9 degrees.

With the frigid weather expected to continue, Mayor Zohran Mamdani said the city was adding homeless outreach workers, opening new warming centers and instructing hospitals to limit discharges "to ensure that people who have nowhere to go are kept indoors."

But the rising death toll has also prompted questions about whether Mamdani's nascent administration could have done more to protect the city's most vulnerable residents ahead of the Arctic blast and the snowstorm that hit early Sunday.

One of the victims, a 52-year-old man living in Queens, was found Sunday morning with discharge papers in his pocket showing he had been released from Elmhurst Hospital, a city-run facility, on Friday, according to State Senator Jessica Ramos.

By the time of his release, the city had already activated its Code Blue protocols, a set of extreme weather policies that include precautions meant to ensure homeless patients are not released back onto the street.

AFFIDAVIT OF INSERTION

Please Fill out Information Below:

(Note: Any line marked with an asterisk (*) must be filled in completely & accurately)

*Name of Publication: Ridgway Record
*City, State: Ridgway, PA
*Advertiser Name: National Fuel

Insertion Order #: 57102

*Date of Insertion: 1/29/2026

Caption: National Fuel January 2026

*Ad Size: 4.93" x 10"

Please return completed & signed
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E-mail: tearsheets@mansimedia.com

Fax: (717) 703-3022

Mail: MANSI Media – Tearsheet Dept.
4000 Crums Mill Rd, Suite 101
Harrisburg, PA 17110

My signature verifies that this ad was inserted as scheduled according to the above specifications.

Christie Gault
Signature

3/2/2026
Date

Danni L. Russell

Commonwealth of Pennsylvania - Notary Seal
Danni L. Russell, Notary Public
Elk County
My commission expires November 3, 2027
Commission number 1264947
Member, Pennsylvania Association of Notaries

*Please note, this form does **NOT** need to be notarized, unless you are told otherwise by a MANSI Media representative.

Photos from you!



Cooper enjoying the snow.

Photo submitted



Jax Carter at Alpine St., Ridgway.

Photo submitted



Maggie wishes every day was a snow day.

Photo submitted

SMA FROM PAGE 5

Lady Dutch vs Clearfield

The Lady Dutch 200 medley relay team of Anna Babcock, Wynn Schreiber, Olivia Condon, and Keira Assalone had a winning time of 2:21.80. The Lady Bison team of Danika Work, Michaela Yankevich, Kaitlyn Flanagan, and Haley Custancy finished second in 2:34.24.

Anna Porkolab finished third in the 200 freestyle in a time of 2:25.18, while Penelope Sorg was fifth in 2:45.08 and Ava Powell was sixth in 2:55.55. Emma Jacob won the event for the Lady Bison in 2:12.35.

Wynn Schreiber won the 200 IM, finishing early 31 seconds ahead of Clearfield's Danika Work, who was the runner-up for the Lady Bison in 2:53.61.

Maddie Lanzel won the 50 freestyle in 25.14 seconds. Clearfield took the next three spots, with Ryann Foltin finishing as the runner-up in 26.84 seconds. Also for the Lady Dutch, Keira Assalone finished fifth in 31.66 seconds, Anna Babcock finished sixth in 33.13 seconds, and Giuliana Muccio finished seventh in 34.46 seconds.

Mia Azzato finished fourth in diving with a score of 187.25. Clearfield's Haley Custancy won the event with a score of 227.20.

The Lady Dutch swept the top two spots in the 100 fly against Clearfield. Maddie Lanzel won the event in 1:01.97, and Olivia Condon was the runner-up in 1:16.61. Kaitlyn Flanagan was the top finisher for Clearfield in 1:24.07.

Anna Porkolab was the runner-up in the 100 freestyle in 1:05.62. Clearfield's Ryann Foltin won the event in 1:01.12. Also for the Lady Dutch, Penelope Sorg finished fifth, Ava Powell finished sixth, and Giuliana Muccio finished seventh.

Keira Assalone finished third in the 500 freestyle. Emma Jacob won the event, and Bailey Jacob was the runner-up.

The Lady Dutch team of Wynn Schreiber, Olivia Condon, Anna Porkolab, and Maddie Lanzel won the

200 freestyle relay. The team of Anna Babcock, Giuliana Muccio, Penelope Sorg, and Mia Azzato finished fourth. Anna Babcock finished second in the 100 backstroke in 1:28.73. Clearfield's Kaylin Houston won the event in 1:17.59.

Wynn Schreiber won the 100 backstroke in 1:15.21. Clearfield did not have any swimmers compete in the event.

The Lady Dutch team of Anna Porkolab, Olivia Condon, Keira Assalone, and Maddie Lanzel won the 400 freestyle relay in 4:11.55. The Clearfield team of Emma Jacob, Bailey Jacob, Kaylin Houston, and Ryann Foltin was the runner-up in 4:23.49. Finishing third was the SMA team of Penelope Sorg, Ava Powell, Giuliana Muccio, and Mia Azzato in 5:09.81.

Dutchmen vs DuBois Area

The Dutchmen team of Ridge Myers, Beau Schreiber, Jeff Schaut, and Milo Brem won the 200 medley relay in a time of 2:02.92. DuBois' team in the event was disqualified.

Alex Haberberger finished third in the 200 freestyle in a time of 2:09.79. The Beavers' Adam Drahushak won the event in 2:04.09.

Jeff Schaut won the 200 IM in a time of 2:16.74. Tripp Slattery was the runner-up for DuBois in a time of 3:04.38.

Beau Schreiber was the runner-up in the 50 freestyle, finishing in 25.52 seconds. DuBois' Tyler Garstka won the event in 24.72 seconds. Also for the Dutchmen, Ridge Myers finished fourth in 25.70 seconds, Milo Brem finished sixth in 26.79 seconds, and Christian Sines finished seventh in 28.73 seconds.

Clay Solada won diving with a score of 113.15.

The Dutchmen did not field any swimmers in the 100 fly. Adam Drahushak won the event for the Beavers in 1:03.66.

Jeff Schaut won the boys' 100 freestyle, with DuBois taking the next two spots. Fourth went to SMA's Alex Haberberger, fifth was Dutchman Milo Brem, and seventh was SMA's Clay Solada.

Beau Schreiber won the 500 freestyle, with DuBois' Adam Kozak finishing as the runner-

up. The Dutch team of Christian Sines, Clay Solada, Milo Brem, and Alex Haberberger was the runner-up to DuBois in the 200 freestyle relay.

The Dutch duo of Ridge Myers and Christian Sines claimed the top two spots in the 100 backstroke. Myers won the event in 1:10.09, and Sines was the runner-up in 1:25.29. DuBois' Connor Woods finished third in 1:25.45.

No swimmers for the Dutchmen competed in the 100 breaststroke. DuBois' Tyler Garstka won the event in a time of 1:18.68.

The Dutch team of Beau Schreiber, Alex Haberberger, Ridge Myers, and Jeff Schaut won the 400 freestyle relay in 3:47.84. The DuBois team of Connor Mitchell, Sean Stringer, Tyler Garstka, and Adam Drahushak was the runner-up in 3:48.05.

Dutchmen vs Clearfield

The Dutchmen team of Ridge Myers, Beau Schreiber, Jeff Schaut, and Milo Brem finished third behind a pair of squads from Clearfield in the 200 medley relay. The Bison team of Zane Day, Nathaniel Thorp, T. Thompson, and Gavin Coudriet had a winning time of 1:50.77, and the team of Rowan MacDonald, Zane Jenkins, Ashton Harris, and Talan Hutton finished second with a time of 1:59.99. St. Marys finished in 2:02.92.

Alex Haberberger finished fourth in the 200 freestyle. Landyn Rankin won the event for the Bison in 1:51.05.

Jeff Schaut was the runner-up in the 200 IM in a time of 2:16.75. Clearfield's Ty Thompson won the event in 2:10.94.

Beau Schreiber finished third in the 50 freestyle in 25.52 seconds. Clearfield's Nathaniel Thorp won the event in 23.89 seconds. Also for the Dutchmen, Ridge Myers finished fourth in 25.70 seconds, Milo Brem finished fifth in 26.79 seconds, and Christian Sines finished seventh in 28.73 seconds.

Clay Solada finished fourth in diving with a score of 113.15. Clearfield's Colby Custancy won the event with a score of 182.60.

The Dutchmen did

not field any swimmers in the 100 fly. Ty Thompson won the event for the Bison in 57.36 seconds, and his teammate Ashton Harris was the runner-up in 57.37 seconds.

Dutchman Jeff Schaut won the 100 freestyle. Clearfield's Ashton Harris was the runner-up, with SMA's Alex Haberberger taking third, Milo Brem taking fourth, and Clay Solada taking sixth.

Beau Schreiber was the runner-up in the 500 freestyle.

Clearfield's Landyn Rankin won the event.

The Dutch team of Christian Sines, Clay Solada, Milo Brem, and Alex Haberberger finished third against Clearfield freestyle relay.

Dutchmen Ridge Myers and Christian Sines finished second and third, respectively, in the 100 backstroke.

Zane Day won the event in 1:00.48. Myers was the runner-up in 1:10.09, and Sines finished third in 1:25.29. Fourth went

to Clearfield's Kaden Bryan in 1:35.36.

No swimmers for the Dutchmen competed in the 100 breaststroke.

Clearfield's Nathaniel Thorp won the event in 1:08.05.

The Clearfield team of Talan Hutton, Ashton Harris, Gavin Coudriet, and Landyn Rankin won the 400 freestyle relay in 3:43.30. The SMA team of Beau Schreiber, Alex Haberberger, Ridge Myers, and Jeff Schaut was the runner-up in 3:47.84.

Notice of Proposed Rate Changes

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National Fuel Gas Distribution Corporation (National Fuel or Company) is filing a request with the Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission (PUC) to increase your gas distribution rates as of March 29, 2026. This notice describes the Company's rate request, the PUC's role, and what actions you can take.

The Company has requested a base rate increase of \$19.7 million per year. This filing also includes a request for approval of the following alternative rate mechanisms in accordance with 66 Pa. C.S., § 1330: 1) Permanent Weather Normalization Adjustment; 2) Energy Efficiency (EE) pilot program for an additional \$0.7 million per year to be recovered from residential customers through a separate rider. Additionally, the Company has proposed the reactivation of the OPEB rider 1 surcredit to refund \$7.2 million for customer bill relief.

If the Company's entire request is approved, the total bill for a residential customer using 80 ccf per month would increase from \$35.43 to \$39.28 per month, or by 8.1% including the proposed EE rider. From \$83.49 to \$88.44 per month, or by 5.9% when including the proposed OPEB rider 1 surcredit extension.

The total bill for a small commercial customer using 257 ccf per month would increase from \$189.24 to \$201.21 per month or by 6.5%. From \$189.24 to \$198.11 per month, or by 5.3% when including the proposed OPEB rider 1 surcredit extension.

The total bill for an intermediate volume industrial customer using 802 Mcf monthly would increase from \$1905.13 to \$2,039.29 per month, or by 7.0%. From \$1905.13 to \$1,984.36 per month, or by 4.2% when including the proposed OPEB rider 1 surcredit extension.

To find out your customer class or how the requested increase may affect your gas bill, contact National Fuel at 1-800-365-3234. The rates requested by the Company may be found in Supplement No. 294 to Tariff Gas - Pa. P.U.C. No. 9. You may examine the material filed with the PUC, which explains the requested increase and the reasons for it. A copy of this material is kept at National Fuel's Consumer Assistance Centers. Upon request, the Company will send you a statement of reasons for Supplement No. 294 explaining why the Company requested the rate increase.

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The PUC may change the amount of the rate increase or decrease requested by the utility for each customer class. As a result, the rate charged to you may be different than the rate requested by the Company and shown above.

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- You can file a formal complaint.** If you want a hearing before a judge, you must file a formal complaint. By filing a formal complaint, you assure yourself the opportunity to take part in hearings about the rate increase request. All complaints should be filed with the PUC before March 29, 2026. If no formal complaints are filed, the Commission may grant all, some or none of the request without holding a hearing before a judge.
- You can send us a letter explaining why you object to the requested rate increase.** Sometimes there is information in these letters that makes us aware of problems with the Company's service or management. This information can be helpful when we investigate the rate request. Send your letter or request for a formal complaint form to the Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission, Post Office Box 3266, Harrisburg, PA 17105-3266.
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For more information, call the PUC at 1-800-692-7380. You may leave your name and address so you can be notified of any public input hearings that may be scheduled in this case.

AFFIDAVIT OF INSERTION

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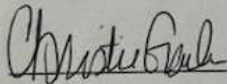
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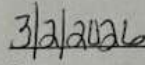
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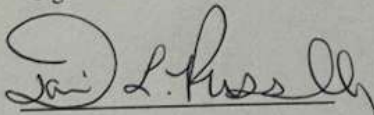
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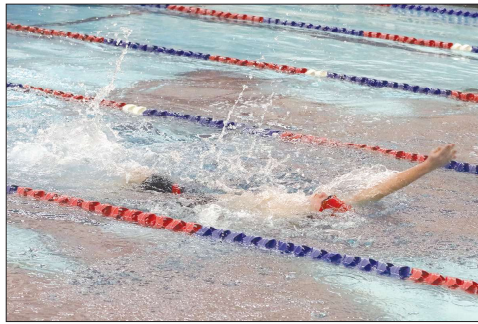


Photo by Becky Polaski
Clay Solada is shown in action for the Dutchmen during the boys' 200 medley relay.

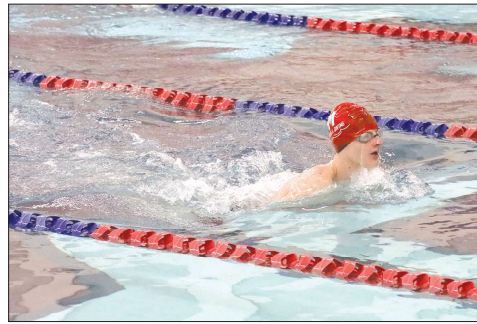


Photo by Becky Polaski
Beau Schreiber is shown in action for the Dutchmen during the boys' 200 medley relay.

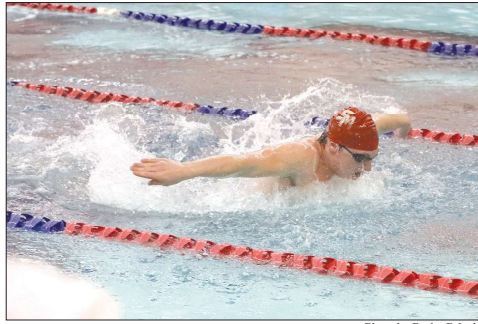


Photo by Becky Polaski
Jeff Schaut is shown in action for the Dutchmen during the boys' 200 medley relay.



Photo by Becky Polaski
Milo Brem is shown in action for the Dutchmen during the boys' 200 medley relay.

SMA swim teams split with Bradford on Senior Night

By Becky Polaski
Staff Writer

ST. MARYS — It was Senior Night for the St. Marys Area girls' and boys' swim and dive teams on Tuesday evening as they played host to squads from Bradford of the St. Marys Area High School natatorium. The meet was originally scheduled for Monday but was postponed to Tuesday after school was cancelled on Monday. The Lady Dutch defeated the Lady Owls 99-41, while the Owls edged the Dutchmen 72-65.

Seniors Anna Babcock, Milo Brem, Olivia Condon, Miracle Johnson, Giuliana Muccio, Jeff Schaut, and Clay Solada were recognized, along with their parents, during Senior Night festivities held during the meet.

"We want to thank our seniors for the positive energy and leadership they brought to the swim team this season," said SMA head coach Emma Leithner. They helped keep team spirits high throughout the season. Some of our seniors started with the Blue Tide when they were younger, took time away, and found their way back to swimming, which made their return especially meaningful. Others have been dedicated swimmers for many years, and their commitment will be greatly missed. While it's hard to see them go, we're excited to watch them take their next steps and do great things beyond the pool.

The Lady Dutch won seven of the individual events in the girls' meet.

We also want to recognize those swimmers and divers who joined

the team in their final years and quickly grew to love it. Leithner added, "No matter how long they were part of the program, each senior made a lasting impact on the program."

Maddie Lanzel won the 200 freestyle in 2:00.09 and the 100 breaststroke in 1:08.99. Olivia Condon won the 50 freestyle in 29.40 seconds and the 500 freestyle in 6:53.59. Wynn Schreiber won the 100 freestyle in 1:08.99.

Mia Azzato won diving with a score of 170.85. The Lady Dutch also swept all three of the relays.

The Lady Dutch team of Penelope Sorg, Mia Azzato, Keira Assalone, and Ava Powell won the 200 medley relay in 2:32.03.

The Dutch team of Maddie Lanzel, Wynn Schreiber, Keira Assalone, and Anna Porkolab won the 200 freestyle relay in 1:53.68.

The Dutch team of Anna Babcock, Olivia Condon, Wynn Schreiber, and Maddie Lanzel won the 400 freestyle relay in 4:11.67.

The Dutchmen won four of the individual events in the boys' meet.

Jeff Schaut won the 200 IM in 2:16.82 and the 100 breaststroke in 1:08.14.

Ridge Myers won the 200 freestyle in 2:12.11. Clay Solada won diving with a score of 114.15.

The Dutchmen also won one of the relays.

The Dutch team of Ridge Myers, Alex Haberberger, Milo Brem, and Jeff Schaut won the 200 freestyle relay in 1:43.88.

Results of the meet were as follows:

Girls St. Marys 99, Bradford 41

200 medley relay — 2:32.03 — St. Marys Area (Penelope Sorg, Mia Azzato, Keira Assalone, Ava Powell); 2:47.81 — Bradford (Emily Walsh, Kierstin Taylor, Addison Benson, Rylie Baldwin)

200 freestyle — 2:00.09 — Maddie Lanzel — SM, 2:23.20 — Rylann Terwilliger — B, 2:59.67 — Ava Powell — SM, 2:00 IM — 2:26.91 — Wynn Schreiber — SM, 30.77 — Kierstin Taylor — B, 34.60 — Giuliana Muccio — SM, 37.68 — Emmy Kemick — B, 50.73 — Emily Walb — B

Diving — 170.85 — Mia Azzato — SM, 105.75 — Ryan Terwilliger — B, 86.35 — Addison Benson — B, 106.22 — freestyle — 1:06.22 — Anna Porkolab — SM, 1:08.71 — Keira Assalone — SM, 1:09.70 — Rylie Baldwin — B, 1:13.12 — Mia Azzato — SM, 1:30.78 — Emmy Kemick — B, 6:53.59 — Olivia Condon — SM, 7:10.78 — Anna Babcock — SM, 8:51.03 — Giuliana Muccio — SM

200 freestyle relay — 1:53.68 — St. Marys Area (Maddie Lanzel, Wynn Schreiber, Keira Assalone, Anna Porkolab); 2:13.13 — Bradford (Kierstin Taylor, Emmy Kemick, Rylie Baldwin, Rylann Terwilliger)

100 backstroke — 1:18.81 — Addison Benson — B, 1:26.26 — Penelope Sorg — SM, 1:08.99 — Maddie Lanzel — SM, 1:14.64 — Wynn Schreiber — SM, 1:38.13 — Rylie Baldwin — B, 1:55.05 — Ava Powell — SM

400 freestyle relay — 4:11.67 — St. Marys Area (Anna Babcock, Olivia Condon, Wynn Schreiber, Maddie Lanzel); 4:59.29 — St. Marys Area (Anna Babcock, Mia Azzato, Penelope Sorg, Keira Assalone); 4:58.37 — Bradford (Addison Benson, Emmy Kemick, Kierstin Taylor, Rylann Terwilliger)

Boys
Bradford 72,
St. Marys 67

200 medley relay — 2:01.92 — Bradford (Kael Riekofsky, Cooper Haight, Sean Storer, Didi Gospodinov); 2:14.49 — St. Marys Area (Clay Solada, Beau Schreiber, Jeff Schaut, Milo Brem)

200 freestyle — 2:12.11 — Ridge Myers — SM, 2:13.90 — Matthew Galbraith — B, 2:22.81 — Alex Haberberger — SM, 2:16.82 — Jeff Schaut — SM, 2:22.73 — Clark Bailey — B, 24.99 — 50 freestyle — 24.27 — Sean Storer — B, 24.99

— Beau Schreiber — SM, 26.82 — Milo Brem — SM, 30.11 — Didi Gospodinov — B, 30.21 — Christian Sines — SM, 100 fly — 1:04.67 — Clay Solada — SM, 100 freestyle — 1:04.67 — Kael Riekofsky — B, 100 freestyle — 55.25 — Clark Bailey — B, 59.10 — Ridge Myers — SM, 59.88 — Cooper Haight — B, 1:01.15 — Matthew Galbraith — B, 1:01.38 — Milo Brem — SM, 1:01.94 — Alex

Haberberger — SM, 500 freestyle — 5:38.23 — Sean Storer — B, 5:55.26 — Beau Schreiber — SM, 200 freestyle relay — 1:43.88 — St. Marys Area (Ridge Myers, Alex Haberberger, Milo Brem, Jeff Schaut), 1:50.06 — Bradford (Cooper Haight, Didi Gospodinov, Matthew Galbraith, Clark Bailey)

100 backstroke — 1:03.20 — Kael Riekofsky — B, 1:25.65 — Christian Sines — SM, 1:38.55 — Clay Solada — SM, 1:08.14 — Jeff Schaut — SM, 1:16.78 — Cooper Haight — B, 1:27.46 — Didi Gospodinov — B, 400 freestyle relay — 3:51.05 — Bradford (Matthew Galbraith, Clark Bailey, Kael Riekofsky, Sean Storer), 4:04.95 — St. Marys Area (Ridge Myers, Alex Haberberger, Christian Sines, Beau Schreiber)

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If the Company's entire request is approved, the total bill for a residential customer using 80 ccf per month would increase from \$83.49 to \$90.28 per month, or by 8.1% including the proposed EE rider. From \$83.49 to \$88.44 per month, or by 5.9% when including the proposed OPEB rider I surcredit extension.

The total bill for a small commercial customer using 257 ccf per month would increase from \$189.24 to \$201.21 per month or by 6.3%. From \$189.24 to \$193.11 per month, or by 2.0% when including the proposed OPEB rider I surcredit extension.

The total bill for an intermediate volume industrial customer using 802 Mcf monthly would increase from \$1,905.13 to \$2,039.29 per month, or by 7.0%. From \$1,905.13 to \$1,984.36 per month, or by 4.2% when including the proposed OPEB rider I surcredit extension.

To find out your customer class or how the requested increase may affect your gas bill, contact National Fuel at 1-800-365-2324. The rates requested by the Company may be found in Supplement No. 294 to Tariff Gas - PA, P.U.C. No. 9. You may examine the material filed with the PUC, which explains the requested increase and the reasons for it. A copy of this material is kept at National Fuel's Consumer Assistance Centers. Upon request, the Company will send you a statement of reasons for Supplement No. 294 explaining why the Company requested the rate increase.

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For more information, call the PUC at 1-800-692-7380. You may leave your name and address so you can be notified of any public input hearings that may be scheduled in this case.



Photo submitted
The seven senior members of the St. Marys Area girls' and boys' swim and dive teams were recognized during Senior Night festivities during Tuesday's meet with Bradford. Pictured are, front row, from left, Jeff Schaut, Clay Solada, and Milo Brem; and back row, Miracle Johnson, Olivia Condon, Anna Babcock, and Giuliana Muccio.

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*Advertiser Name: *National Fuel*

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My signature verifies that this ad was inserted as scheduled according to the above specifications.

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Lori Emborsky

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Please note, this form does **NOT need to be notarized, unless you are told otherwise by a MANSI Media representative.*

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Local & State News

School ...

"Notwithstanding all the walls we ran into in Harrisburg, called the Senate Republican Caucus, we have continued to fight every year since our chamber has flipped," said McClinton. "There are no shortcuts in education. Our facilities tell the same story. Just this week, we had to dismiss Penn Wood High School students early due to a heating issue, and the following day, we had to shift to virtual instruction, and we're still waiting for those repairs. These disruptions are the result of aging infrastructure and temporary fixes."

In particular, McClinton celebrated \$500,000 toward elevator improvements at Bell Avenue Elementary, \$2 million to replace Penn Wood Middle School and \$500,000 toward solar panels at Park Lane Elementary School. She also referenced millions put toward the district's Rap Curry Athletic Complex, a \$14.6 million project partially funded through a Pennsylvania Redevelopment Assistance Capital Program grant.

Superintendent Dr. William Becoats said that the infusion of funding including adjustments made through the state's updated basic education funding formula have led to a "pattern of academic growth" throughout the district. He noted that both teacher and student performance has surpassed expectations for growth in recent years. He pointed to robust staffing and student support for the success but said that funding delays last year forced them to eliminate some positions.

Nevertheless, Becoats warned that the work is far

from over. He said it's capital funding that will be required to address many of the district's challenges.

"Our students need stability, not stop gaps," said the superintendent. "There are no shortcuts in education. Our facilities tell the same story. Just this week, we had to dismiss Penn Wood High School students early due to a heating issue, and the following day, we had to shift to virtual instruction, and we're still waiting for those repairs. These disruptions are the result of aging infrastructure and temporary fixes."

Across the commonwealth, many districts lack the funding necessary to make repairs. In Philadelphia, assessments are underway in a five year plan, but funding for repairs remains elusive. All districts lack a clear process for doing what's necessary per the legislature.

Insurmountable structural problems sank Pennsylvania's old program, PlanCon, where districts spent a decade in line waiting for grants to fund new buildings or extensive renovations. There was also no focus on maintenance for HVAC repairs, roof replacement, and other smaller projects that could extend the lives of existing facilities. PlanCon 2.0 already exists in state law, but has never been funded.

House Appropriations Chair Rep. Jordan Harris, D-Philadelphia, spoke to the

legislature's role in adequately funding schools.

"We tell all of you young people, 'If you go to school, you do this, you'll have this beautiful life, and you'll be able to do these things,'" said Harris. "But the truth is, for years, folks have been saying that, but leaders in Harrisburg have not been delivering the resources necessary. People say that education is the elevator out of poverty, but you can't do that if you continue to give children broken elevators."

Harris asserted that the state's investments put "less pressure on the local tax base," a reality of the state's longstanding funding model which put most of the burden on local property taxes to fund schools.

Senate Republicans have argued that while taxes may not be going up this year to pay for educational increases, the state is operating on a structural deficit that will eventually lead to an actual deficit in its coffers. They've also questioned the efficacy of funding in a system some believe is too broken to repair, or at least too broken to repair in time for current students to benefit. Within the public system, they pushed for and saw the implementation of structured literacy programs in the state curriculum. Outside of it, they've pushed for school choice funding that would put tax payer dollars toward private alternatives.

Briefs

Outdoor Club To Hike, Ski At Audubon

On Sunday, Feb. 1, members of the Allegheny Outdoor Club will hike or cross-country ski at the Audubon Community Nature Center trails near Jamestown. Members will use a loop trail of 3.5 miles. The loop trail is relatively flat and will be snow covered. The group will meet at the Nature Center parking lot at 1:30 p.m.

Peter To will be the leader for the hike.

WGH to host blood drive Feb. 5

The Community Blood Bank will host a blood drive from noon to 5 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 5, at Warren General Hospital, 2 Crescent Park, Warren. To donate, individuals must be at least 17 years old (or 16 with parental consent), weigh at least 110 pounds, and be in good health.

Appointments can be scheduled by visiting www.fourhearts.org or by calling Edinger at 814-596-3395. Walk-ins are also welcome, but scheduling an appointment ensures a smoother process for donors. Blood donations take about 45 minutes.

Bridge league winners announced

Monday evening at the YMCA, Shelley Dahlie and Pat Fincher placed first with Chick Bello and Bill Kuppinger in second. Nan Cashman came in first on Tuesday at the Woman's Club and Bill Massa was second. Thursday at the Woman's Club, Bill Massa and Conita Lucia were first and second. The third week of the annual Marathon at the Woman's Club found Penny Miller and Dave Benedict (or 16 with parental consent), weigh at least 110 pounds, and be in good health.

Gas smell at nursing home was reported hours before deadly explosion

HARRISBURG, Pa. (AP) — Hours before a deadly explosion ripped through a Pennsylvania nursing home last month, staff grew concerned about the smell of natural gas on several floors and brought in workers from the utility company to check it out Wednesday.

The preliminary report by the National Transportation Safety Board provides details about the three hours that passed between the report of a gas odor and the explosion in Bristol, just outside Philadelphia, as well as how utility workers were on the scene for that time. It also notes that a utility worker traced the leak to a valve in a meter set in the basement boiler room.

While the presence of utility workers and witness accounts of a heavy gas smell in the aftermath raised questions about a possible leak, PECO had said at the time it could not determine the cause or whether its equipment was involved. Two residents and an employee were killed and about 20 people injured, including one of the utility workers, just a few days before Christmas. Part of the building collapsed, trapping people inside, as emergency workers, staff and even medics from a nearby hospital rushed to evacuate people. Exelon, PECO's parent company, shut off the gas flow to the facility almost two hours after the explosion, according to the report. It's not clear why it took that long to do so. Investigators plan to focus on Exelon's pipeline safety management and how it trains people, their qualifications, odor-curve meter, regulator, piping, valves and fittings. An Exelon foreman sent out a meter services technician to make the repair. He arrived at about 1:20 a.m. The explosion occurred at around 2:15 p.m. Federal inspectors say the line and gas equipment have been tested, with some items sent to a lab for more study.

Eagle ...

State Rep. Kathy Rapp, R-Warren, and Sen. Scott Hutchinson, R-Oil City, were in attendance and presented Isaac with citation awards for his accomplishments.

Isaac is a senior at Warren High School

and hopes to continue his education in the medical field and utilize the skills and knowledge he has gained from his scouting career to succeed in his future life endeavors.

Charge ...

The incident allegedly took place Dec. 22 in Glade Township, according to online court docket information. The criminal complaint was filed Tuesday in Magisterial District Judge Laura Bauer's office.

Swartz was charged Dec. 10 in Swatara Township in Dauphin County by the State Police at Harrisburg with misdemeanor charges of false identification to law enforcement,

BAC .2% or higher-third offense and driving while license suspended or revoked. Swartz pleaded guilty to the false identification charge and to driving with a suspended license charge while the BAC .2% or higher charge was changed, according to online court docket information. He was given an alternate sentence on Jan. 13 in the Court of Common Pleas in Dauphin County.

Snow ...

"To stop and just be present and want to catch a snowflake on your tongue, or scoop up some fresh, white, untouched snow that's collected during something as exciting as a snowstorm, I think that there's space in our world to enjoy that," Crockett said. "And while we need to make good choices, I think these are simple things that can bring joy."

Getting outdoors to enjoy simple pleasures is unlikely to be front of mind for paying in a 1,300-mile (2,100-kilometer) stretch of the United States where a massive weekend storm brought deep snow and bitter cold. Freezing rain and ice brought down power lines and tree limbs, leaving hundreds of thousands of homes without power or heating in the South, while snow upended road and air travel from Arkansas to New England.

As the storm recedes, residents of lesser-affected areas might be tempted to whip up bowls of "snow cream" — snow combined with milk, sugar and vanilla — after seeing techniques demonstrated on TikTok. Others might want to try "sugar on snow," a fatty-like confection made by pouring hot maple syrup onto a plate of snow.

Despite its pristine appearance, snow isn't always clean enough to consume, Crockett and other experts shared advice for digging in safely while digging out.

The science of snow

Whether it's rain or snow, precipitation cleans the atmosphere, picking up pollutants as it falls, said Steven Fassnacht, a professor of snow hydrology at Colorado State University. But snowflakes pick up more impurities because they fall more slowly and have more exposed surface areas than raindrops, he said.

That means snow that falls near coal plants or factories that emit particulates into the air contains more contaminants, said Fassnacht, who was in Shinjo, Japan, last week studying the salt content of snow. He said he wouldn't have hesitated

to take a taste there because there weren't any big industrial complexes upwind.

"Snow can be eaten, but you want to think about the trajectory. Where did that snow come from?" he said. "Timing is another consideration, according to Crockett. The first wave of snow holds the most particulate matter, she said, so waiting until a storm is well underway before putting out a bowl to collect falling snow is one precaution to take."

Ground contamination is an additional factor, experts say. Avoiding yellow snow, which may be tainted by urine or tree bark, is conventional wisdom, but it's also a good idea to stay away from any snow pushed by snowplows and packed with road salt, de-icing chemicals and debris.

Snack versus survival
What about eating snow to survive? Crockett, who oversees the wilderness medicine program at Dartmouth College's Geisel School of Medicine, says that's a bad idea.

The energy it takes to melt snow in your mouth as you're eating is essentially counteracts the hydration benefit, plus it decreases your core body temperature and increases the risk of hypothermia. While outdoor enthusiasts who plan to spend days in the mountains often melt and boil snow to purify it for drinking, it shouldn't be viewed as an immediate hydration source, she said.

"If you are disoriented on a local hike, I would say your number one priority is to try to reach out for help in any way you can ... not 'Can I eat enough snow?'" Crockett said.

Focus on rewards, not risks

Fassnacht, who has studied snow for more than 30 years, said he tried "snow cream" for the first time last year when some students made him some. He described it as a fun experience that got him thinking about flavors and textures, not contaminants. "It's a whimsical thing," he said. "It made me think about what are the characteristics of that freshly fallen snow, and how does that change the taste sensation?"

Crockett likewise is a fan of finding inspiration and wonder in nature. She worries that overprotective parenting has contributed to anxiety in some young people, and that excessive warnings about eating snow could add to that.

"We have to strike that right balance of making sure we're avoiding danger while not being so protective that we encourage this 'Everything is going to harm me' mentality, particularly for children," she said.

Crockett has four children, including a daughter she described as a "passionate snow eater." As the recent winter storm got underway, she asked her why she liked eating snow so much and was told, "It makes me feel connected to the Earth."

"That is actually something that's really important to me, that we all have this connection to nature," Crockett said.

AP National Writer Allen G. Breed contributed from Wake Forest, North Carolina.

Notice of Proposed Rate Changes

To Our Customers:

National Fuel Gas Distribution Corporation (National Fuel or Company) is filing a request with the Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission (PUC) to increase your gas distribution rates as of March 29, 2026. This notice describes the Company's rate request, the PUC's role, and what actions you can take.

The Company has requested a base rate increase of \$19.7 million per year. This filing also includes a request for approval of the following alternative rate mechanisms in accordance with 66 Pa. C.S. § 1330: 1) Permanent Weather Normalization Adjustment; 2) Energy Efficiency (EE) pilot program for an additional \$0.7 million per year to be recovered from residential customers through a separate rider. Additionally, the Company has proposed the reactivation of the OPEB rider 1 surcredit to refund \$7.2 million for customer bill relief.

If the Company's entire request is approved, the total bill for a residential customer using 80 ccf per month would increase from \$83.49 to \$90.28 per month, or by 8.1% including the proposed EE rider. From \$83.49 to \$88.44 per month, or by 5.9% when including the proposed OPEB rider 1 surcredit extension.

The total bill for a small commercial customer using 257 ccf per month would increase from \$183.24 to \$201.21 per month or by 6.5%. From \$190.513 to \$198.436 per month, or by 4.2% when including the proposed OPEB rider 1 surcredit extension.

The total bill for an intermediate volume industrial customer using 802 Mcf monthly would increase from \$1905.13 to \$2,033.29 per month, or by 7.0%. From \$1905.13 to \$1,984.36 per month, or by 4.2% when including the proposed OPEB rider 1 surcredit extension.

To find out your customer class or how the requested increase may affect your gas bill, contact National Fuel at 1-800-365-3234. The rates requested by the Company may be found in Supplement No. 294 to Tariff Gas - Pa, PUC, No. 9. You may examine the material filed with the PUC, which explains the requested increase and the reasons for it. A copy of this material is kept at National Fuels Consumer Assistance Centers. Upon request, the Company will send you a statement of reasons for Supplement No. 294 explaining why the Company requested the rate increase.

The state agency which approves rates for public utilities is the PUC. The PUC will examine the requested rate increase and can prevent existing rates from changing until it investigates and/or holds hearings on the request. The Company must prove that the requested rates are reasonable. After examining the evidence, the PUC may grant all, some, or none of the request or may reduce existing rates.

The PUC may change the amount of the rate increase or decrease requested by the utility for each customer class. As a result, the rate charged to you may be different than the rate requested by the Company and shown above.

There are three ways to challenge a company's request to change its rates:

- You can file a formal complaint. If you want a hearing before a judge, you must file a formal complaint.** By filing a formal complaint, you assure yourself the opportunity to take part in hearings about the rate increase request. All complaints should be filed with the PUC before March 29, 2026. If no formal complaints are filed, the Commission may grant all, some or none of the request without holding a hearing before a judge.
- You can send us a letter explaining why you object to the requested rate increase.** Sometimes there is information in these letters that makes us aware of problems with the Company's service or management. This information can be helpful when we investigate the rate request. **Send your letter or request for a formal complaint form to the Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission, Post Office Box 3265, Harrisburg, PA 17105-3265.**
- You can be a witness at a public input hearing.** Public input hearings are held if the Commission opens an investigation of the company's rate increase request and if there is a large number of customers interested in the case. At these hearings you have the opportunity to present your views in person to the PUC judge hearing the case and the Company representatives. All testimony given "under oath" becomes part of the official rate case record. These hearings are held in the service area of the Company.

For more information, call the PUC at 1-800-692-7380. You may leave your name and address so you can be notified of any public input hearings that may be scheduled in this case.

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11 dead in South Africa minibus, truck collision days after similar crash killed 14 children

JOHANNESBURG (AP)—A collision involving a minibus taxi and a truck killed at least 11 people in South Africa on Thursday, a local government official and emergency services said, just over a week after a similar road crash left 14 schoolchildren dead.

Thursday's crash happened near the city of Durban in the eastern KwaZulu-Natal province. Provincial transport department official Siboniso Duma said in a statement that 11 people, including a schoolchild, died at the scene, although that was according to preliminary information.

"Witnesses have alleged that the truck driver made a U-turn resulting in a head-on collision," Duma said.

Garrih Jamieson, spokesperson for the private paramedic service ALS Paramedics, told the Associated Press that 11 were dead and several people were critically injured, including the driver of the minibus, who was trapped in the wreckage.

According to Duma, a preliminary probe into the incident revealed that the truck was operating illegally with worn-out tires. At the same time, the taxi driver's professional license, necessary to operate any public transportation in South Africa, was found to have expired in 2023, he said.

The fatal collision came days after a deadly head-on crash between a truck and a minibus taxi being used to transport schoolchildren.

The driver of the minibus involved in that crash near Johannesburg on Jan. 19 was arrested and charged with 14 counts of murder after authorities alleged he was driving recklessly by overtaking a line of vehicles before crashing into the truck.

The 22-year-old driver was initially charged with an offense comparable to manslaughter, but prosecutors later upgraded the charges to murder.

On Thursday, South African Transport Minister Barbara Creecy expressed "serious concerns" about the continuous rise in traffic fatalities caused by crashes involving public transportation.

She instructed the country's Road Traffic Management Corporation, which is responsible for organizing road traffic regulation, enforcement and strategic planning, to collaborate with local authorities to investigate the cause of the most recent collision.

A preliminary investigation report is expected within 48 hours of the RTMC beginning its inquiry, Creecy said.

Minibus taxis are the preferred method of public transport for most South Africans to get to and from work, with estimates that they are used by approximately 70% of commuters.

Africa has a wider problem with road safety, and crashes kill about 300,000 people annually, about a quarter of the global toll. Africa has the world's highest road traffic fatality rate at 26.6 deaths per 100,000 people, compared with a global average of about 18, according to the U.N. Economic Commission for Africa. This is despite the continent of 1.5 billion people accounting for just about 3% of the global vehicle population.

New documentary sets out King Charles' philosophy for saving planet Earth

WINDSOR, England (AP)—King Charles III is clearly thinking about his legacy.

In his new film, "Finding Harmony: A King's Vision," Charles delivers a simple message — that humanity needs to restore the balance between man and nature if it hopes to solve global warming and many of the other problems facing the world today. Helping spread that gospel, he hopes, will be his legacy.

"It all boils down to the fact that we are actually nature ourselves, we are a part of it, not apart from it, which is really how things are being presented for so long," Charles says in the closing moments of the documentary before turning to Shakespeare. "Maybe, by the time I shuffle off this mortal coil, there might be a little more awareness ... of the need to bring things back together again."

'Criticisms really upset him'

Charles and Amazon Prime unveiled the film on Wednesday at Windsor Castle, near London, ahead of a red-carpet premiere attended by celebrities including Kate Winslet, who narrates the film.

The film spells out the king's philosophy that humans will only thrive if they learn to work with nature, not against it, because they are as much a part of the natural world as animals, insects and trees. Charles first addressed these ideas in his 2010 book "Harmony: A New Way of Looking at Our World."

It also gives him the chance to confront those who have lampooned him as a dilettante flitting aimlessly from one cause to another with no rhyme or reason. On the contrary, the film argues, climate change, urban planning, sustainable agriculture, traditional crafts and fostering understanding between religions — causes to which the king has devoted much of his adult life — are inter-related issues that must be dealt with to create sustainable communities.

Charles, 77, was "haunted" by press coverage that mocked him for a 1986 TV interview in which he said he talked to his plants, Winslet says in the narration, accompanied by images of critical newspaper headlines.

"Those criticisms really upset him. He got treated very unfairly, seen very unfairly, and those of us that knew him better were quite upset by that," Ian Skelly, co-author of the king's 2010 book. "It was difficult to know how to respond, but I really felt for him."

Lifelong campaign

Charles has been campaigning on environmental issues since at least 1971 when he gave his first speech on conservation while still an undergraduate at the University of Cambridge. He has since started a successful organic food firm and helped build a sustainable village in western England.

Environmentalist Tony Juniper, who worked with the king on both the film and book, believes the king is uniquely qualified to deliver his message because he began speaking out on environmental issues long before they were popular and because he continues to do so, even as other world leaders shun environmental protection in favor of energy security and economic growth.

"I do feel as though the world is now hungry for some new big ideas," Juniper said. "And I do hope that one of those big ideas that people would like to consider as we face into these multiple challenges of the 2020s and beyond is the idea of harmony."

While Charles first addressed the idea of harmony 16 years ago, he is returning to the topic partly because of the growth of streaming platforms like Amazon Prime give him a chance to reach new audiences worldwide.

A matter of legacy

But the king also wants to shift the focus back to an issue he hopes will define his legacy after two years in which the media, and the public, were distracted by other matters, said Ed Owens, author of "After Elizabeth: Can the Monarchy Save Itself?"

First there was a cancer diagnosis, which forced him to step away from public duties for several months in early 2024 and raised nagging questions about his health. Then there were the continuing tensions with his younger son, Prince Harry, and the scandal surrounding his brother Andrew's links to the convicted sex offender Jeffrey Epstein.

With Charles apparently past the worst of his cancer treatment and Andrew stripped of his royal titles, now may be the time to turn the page.

"He wants to set out what his legacy is as a monarch — as a significant member of this Windsor family for going on 80 years," Owens said. "This is about him giving us a clear indication of what he thinks matters in terms of his public image and persona, what he wants us to take away from him as his defining characteristics."

The documentary — "Finding Harmony: A King's Vision" — will be available on Amazon Prime from Feb. 6.

Japan's last pair of pandas have arrived back in China

BANGKOK (AP) — Japan's last pair of pandas have returned to China, leaving Japan without the lovable bears for the first time in half a century.

The bears are heading back as diplomatic relations between the two countries are at their lowest point in years over the new Japanese Prime Minister's stance on Taiwan, an island Beijing claims as its own, making it unlikely that there will be replacement bears.

The twins Xiao Xiao and Lei Lei have an adoring fan base in Japan, where thousands of people flocked to Tokyo's Ueno Zoo ahead of their departure.

China first sent pandas to Japan in 1972, a gift meant to mark the normalization of diplomatic ties between the two neighbors. Beijing has long used the bears as a diplomatic tool: a sign of good will and an extension of the country's soft power, and one that it can retract when bilateral relationships turn adversarial.

Images from state broadcaster CCTV, showed the two pandas, Xiao Xiao and Lei Lei, arriving in crates in southwestern China's Sichuan province, where they will stay in quarantine at the China Conservation and Research Center for the Giant Panda.

The pandas arrived safely early Wednesday morning, the conservation center said in a statement.

Xiao Xiao and his sister Lei Lei were born in Tokyo's Ueno Zoo in 2021. While Beijing lends pandas to other countries, it maintains ownership over the animals, including new cubs.



China Conservation and Research Center for Giant Panda via AP
Giant panda Lei Lei is shown in her enclosure.

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For more information, call the PUC at 1-800-692-7380. You may leave your name and address so you can be notified of any public input hearings that may be scheduled in this case.

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Arctic blast grips Kane; KADC urges support for local business

By Francis Aurieimo Jr., Staff Reporter

KANE, Pa. — While the mercury has struggled to climb out of the single digits this week, the Pennsylvania Wilds are living up to their name. With wind chills dipping as low as minus 20 degrees following a weekend of heavy snow, local residents might be surprised to learn that it is currently warmer in Anchorage, Alaska, than it is on Main Street, according to Accu weather. But in

Kane, the cold has not stopped business; it has just changed the pace. The Kane Area Development Center (KADC) is leading the drive, reminding residents that now is a critical time to "Shop Small."

The KADC proposal to support local commerce during this Arctic blast is about more than business—it is about community resilience. Officials noted that local purchases help area storefronts maintain operations and heating during ex-



Graphic via Kane Area Development Center / Facebook

treme weather. Local establishments are proving their grit. While foot traffic has slowed due to treacherous wind

chills, the community's spirit remains thawed. Whether gathering for a hot meal or checking in on a neighbor, the region continues to show its strength. For those braving the cold

to support the community, several events are scheduled. Some events include:
 Sunday, Feb. 1: Highmark's Caring Place will offer "Empowering Grieving Children: A Compassionate Guide for Adults" at the Kane Area Children's Museum from 1 p.m. to 2:30 p.m. The event is free and open to the public.
 Monday, Feb. 2: From 6 p.m. to 7 p.m., Yoga led by Karen Haberberger at the Kane Area Community Center. Bring a mat, bring

a friend.
 Tuesday, Feb. 3: From 6:30 p.m. to 7:15 p.m., Cardiodrinking with Adam and Karen Hickey at the Kane Community Methodist Church. Free and open to all fitness levels.
 Friday, Feb. 6: The Kane Area Community Center will host a free Family Fun Night from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m.
 For additional information regarding upcoming events, please visit www.kanepa.com/events.

New high-tech patrol fleet unveiled: Pennsylvania State Police boost visibility and communication capabilities

Harrisburg, PA — The Pennsylvania State Police (PSP) today unveiled a series of enhancements to their patrol vehicles that significantly improve visibility during traffic stops and emergency responses, enhancing safety for both troopers and the public. "These upgrades represent a major step forward in safety, visibility, and operational efficiency," said Lieutenant Colonel George Bivens, Acting Commissioner of the PSP.

"This department has long set the benchmark for professionalism and innovation, and with this cutting-edge technology, we will continue to lead by example and set new standards for law enforcement across the nation." The upgrades include a distinctive V-shaped light bar that provides full 360-degree illumination, dramatically increasing visibility compared to traditional linear bars. The system

features GPS-based vehicle-to-vehicle communication that automatically synchronizes flash patterns and voice commands among nearby patrol units, improving coordination and safety at emergency scenes. The light bar functions as an auxiliary brake light during hard braking, and a floodlight for use in dark, hazardous environments. In lowlight conditions, when the vehicle is parked, an automatic dimming feature enhances vision at night and reduces glare. The department also equipped patrol vehicles with a new 400-watt siren system that includes four speakers and a low-frequency Rumbler device. This system adds low-frequency vibrations to traditional high-frequency tones, increasing sound pressure inside nearby vehicles by up to 10 decibels. As a result, the emergency warning

time for motorists to detect and respond to an approaching emergency vehicle has increased. PSP is one of only two law enforcement agencies in the nation with this advanced sound capability. To support these enhancements, PSP modernized the light and siren control panel to make operation simpler and more intuitive. When emergency lights are activated, the controls automatically enter a hands-free mode, and the public address system remains live at full volume to ensure clear, immediate communication. Troopers have access to a selection of automated voice commands, commonly used for traffic stops and incident responses, which are available in English or Spanish and can be repeated as needed. These upgrades reflect the department's commitment to embracing new tech-



Photo submitted

Pennsylvania State Police unveil advanced patrol vehicle upgrades designed to enhance trooper safety, visibility, and communication during traffic stops and emergency responses. The new technology includes upgraded lighting, sound systems, and automated voice commands to better protect troopers and the public.

nologies and emerging tools to ensure troopers have the resources they need to perform their duties safely and efficiently while strengthening their ability to protect Pennsylvania communities.

These enhancements continue the Shapiro Administration's work to build safer communities and ensure law enforcement is well-trained, well-staffed, well-funded, and well-equipped. The 2025-26 state budget signed by Governor

Shapiro invests in new patrol vehicles to replace high-mileage units in the PSP fleet. State troopers patrol 44,000 miles of Pennsylvania highway, so it's not uncommon for their patrol vehicles to reach 200,000 miles before replacement. The budget also includes funding for four additional PSP cadet classes. Since taking office, Governor Shapiro has secured funding for twelve cadet classes to train over 1,000 new Pennsylvania State Troopers and

secured funding through the Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency (PCCD) to help municipal police departments recruit and retain nearly 700 municipal police officers across the Commonwealth. To date, more than 550 PSP cadets have graduated and joined the ranks of PSP under Governor Shapiro's leadership. For more information on the Pennsylvania State Police, visit the PSP website.

Causer highlights privately funded scholarship opportunity for Pennsylvania seniors

HARRISBURG, Pa. — State Rep. Martin Causer (R-Cameron/McKean/Potter) is encouraging local high school seniors to apply for the Pennsylvania House of Representatives Scholarship, a privately funded program designed to ease the burden of higher education costs.

Administered by The Foundation for Enhancing Communities (TFEC), the program provides four-year scholarships to two eligible students annually. Notably, the program operates without the use of any tax or public funds, relying instead on the generosity of individual and corporate donors. Investment in Education To ensure the awards keep pace with rising costs, the scholarship utilizes the new University of Pennsylvania 529 College Savings Program. Each recipient receives an annual award equal to the value of one semester of tuition at Shippensburg University. The funds are distributed equally between the fall and spring semesters. To remain eligible for the full four-year duration, students must maintain specific academic and participation standards.

quired essay: the role of Artificial Intelligence (AI) in the legislative process. Students must discuss the potential benefits and risks of using AI for drafting legislation or researching policy, while outlining what regulations they would introduce to govern its use in government.

Deadlines and Contributions The deadline to apply is April 15. Those interested in supporting the future

of Pennsylvania's students can also make tax-deductible donations directly to the fund through TFEC to help increase the number of scholarships available in the future. For application details or to donate, contact The Foundation for Enhancing Communities at 717-236-5040 or visit their office at 200 N. 3rd Street in Harrisburg. Via Facebook, PA State Rep. Martin Causer

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The total bill for a small commercial customer using 257 ccf per month would increase from \$189.24 to \$202.11 per month or by 6.5%. From \$189.24 to \$198.11 per month, or by 5.1% when including the proposed OPEB rider I surcredit extension.

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su do ku

4	3		7						
7	3	2	4	9					
				2				9	
6	8								4
9			3		8				
				5					
			2	7					
			1			3	6		
5					2				

Here's How It Works:
 Sudoku puzzles are formatted as a 9x9 grid, broken down into nine 3x3 boxes. To solve a sudoku, the numbers 1 through 9 must fill each row, column and box. Each number can appear only once in each row, column and box. You can figure out the order in which the numbers will appear by using the numeric clues already provided in the boxes. The more numbers you name, the easier it gets to solve the puzzle!

8	4	2	6	9	7	1	5	3
7	3	9	5	8	1	2	6	4
6	1	5	2	4	3	8	7	9
4	8	7	9	1	6	5	3	2
9	2	1	7	3	5	6	4	8
5	6	3	8	2	4	7	9	1
3	7	4	1	6	8	9	2	5
1	9	6	3	5	2	4	8	7
2	5	8	4	7	9	3	1	6

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CORRY JOURNAL

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Phone 814-665-8291

February 11, 2026

Mansi Mzedia
4000 Crums Mill Road
Suite 101
Harrisburg PA 17112

No. 1452922 Term, 2028

**Proof of Publication of Notice in
the Corry Journal**

Under Act No. 587, Approved May 16, 1929

State of Pennsylvania,
County of Erie } ss:


.....CORRY JOURNAL,
of the County and State aforesaid, being duly sworn deposes and says that the CORRY JOURNAL
is a daily newspaper published at 28 W. South Street, City of Corry, County and State aforesaid
which was established in the year 1902, since which date said daily newspaper has been regular
issued in said County, and that a copy of the printed notice or publication is attached hereto exact


as the name was printed and published in the regular editions and issues of the said daily paper
on the following dates, viz:.....

.....and the 30 day of Jan. A.D. 2026

Affiant further deposes that she is an officer duly authorized by the CORRY JOURNAL
publishers of the CORRY JOURNAL, a daily newspaper, to verify the foregoing statement and
oath and also declares that affiant is not interested in the subject matter of the aforesaid notice
publication, and that all allegations in the foregoing statement as to time, place and character
publication are true.

Date	Lines	Description	Rate	Amount
------	-------	-------------	------	--------


Corry Journal

Sworn to and subscribed before me
this 11 day of Feb
2026


Notary Public
Erie County
Commission expires December 10, 2028
Commission number 1452922
Pennsylvania Association of Notaries

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Trump threatens Canada with 50% tariff on aircraft sold in US, expanding trade war

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Donald Trump on Thursday threatened Canada with a 50% tariff on any aircraft sold in the U.S., the latest salvo in his trade war with America's northern neighbor as his feud with Prime Minister Mark Carney expands.

Trump's threat posted on social media came after he threatened over the weekend to impose a 100% tariff on goods imported from Canada if it went forward with a planned trade deal with China. But Trump's threat did not come with any details about when he would impose the import taxes, as Canada had already struck a deal.

In Trump's latest threat, the Republican president said he was retaliating against Canada for refusing to certify jets from Savannah, Georgia-based Gulfstream Aerospace.

Trump said the U.S., in return, would decertify all Canadian aircraft, including planes from its largest aircraft maker, Bombardier. "If, for any reason, this situation is not immediately corrected, I am going to charge Canada a 50% Tariff on any and all Aircraft sold into the United States of America," Trump said in his post.

Trump said he is "hereby decertifying" the Bombardier Global Express business jets. There are 150 Global Express aircraft in service registered in the U.S., operated by 115 operators, according to Cirium, the aviation analytics company.

Bombardier and Gulfstream are head-to-head rivals, with the Global series battling for market share against Gulfstream's latest models.

Bombardier said in a statement that it has taken note of the president's post

and is in contact with the Canadian government. The Montreal-based company said its aircraft are fully certified to Federal Aviation Administration standards and it is expanding U.S. operations.

"Thousands of private and civilian jets built in Canada fly in the U.S. every day. We hope this is quickly resolved to avoid a significant impact to air traffic and the flying public," the company said.

Spokespeople for the Canadian government didn't respond to messages seeking comment Thursday evening.

John Gradek, who teaches aviation management at McGill University, said certification is about safety and it would be unprecedented to decertify for trade reasons.

"Certification is not trivial. It is a very important step in getting planes to operate safely," Gradek said. "Somebody is not picking on the Gulfstream. Decertification for trade reasons does not happen."

Gradek said many Gulfstreams have been certified for years in Canada.

"This is really a smoke-screen that's basically throwing up another red flag in the face of Mr. Carney," Gradek said. "This is taking it to the extreme. This is a new salvo in the trade war."

The U.S. Commerce Department previously put duties on a Bombardier commercial passenger jet in 2017 during the first Trump administration, charging that the Canadian company was selling the planes in America below cost. The U.S. said then that Bombardier used unfair government subsidies to sell jets at artificially low prices.

Senate passes Trump-backed government funding deal, sending to House

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Senate voted Friday to fund most of the government through the end of September while carving out a temporary extension for Homeland Security funding, giving Congress two weeks to debate new restrictions on federal immigration raids across the country.

With a weekend shutdown looming, President Donald Trump struck the spending deal with Senate Democrats on Thursday in the wake of the deaths of two protesters at the hands of federal agents in Minneapolis. Democrats said they would not vote for the larger spending bill unless Congress considers legislation to unmask agents, require more warrants and allow local authorities to help investigate any incidents.

"The nation is reaching a breaking point," Senate Democratic leader Chuck Schumer said after the vote. "The American people are demanding that Congress step up and force change."

As lawmakers in both parties called for investigations into the fatal shootings, Trump said he didn't want a shutdown and negotiated the rare deal with Schumer, his frequent adversary. Trump then encouraged members of both parties to cast a "much needed Bipartisan 'YES' vote."

The bill passed 71-29 and will now head to the House, which is not due back until Monday. That means the government could be in a partial shutdown temporarily over the weekend until they pass it.

Speaker Mike Johnson, who held a conference call Friday with GOP lawmakers, said he expects the House to vote Monday eve-



J. Scott Applewhite/AP

WASHINGTON — The Capitol is seen from the Russell Senate Office Building as lawmakers argue on whether to move forward with the spending legislation that funds the Department of Homeland Security, at the Capitol on Thursday.

ning. But what is uncertain is how much support there will be for the package.

Johnson's right flank has signaled opposition to limits on Homeland Security funds, leaving him reliant on Democrats who have their own objections to funding U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement without immediate restraints.

Two-week debate over ICE

It was unclear how involved Trump will be in the negotiations over new restrictions on immigration arrests — or if Republicans and Democrats could find any points of compromise.

Senate Democrats will not support an extension of Homeland Security funding in two weeks "unless it reins in ICE and ends violence," Schumer said. "If our colleagues are not willing to enact real change, they should not expect Democratic votes."

Similarly, House Democratic Leader Hakeem Jeffries told reporters that any change in the homeland bill needs to be "meaning-

ful and it needs to be transformative."

Absent "dramatic change," Jeffries said, "Republicans will get another shutdown."

Senate Majority Leader John Thune, R-S.D., said the two sides will "sit down in good faith," but it will be "really, really hard to get anything done," especially in such a short amount of time.

"We'll stay hopeful, but there are some pretty significant differences of opinion," Thune said.

Democrats demand change

Irate Democrats have asked the White House to "end roving patrols" in cities and coordinate with local law enforcement on immigration arrests, including requiring tighter rules for warrants.

They also want an enforceable code of conduct so agents are held accountable when they violate rules. Schumer said agents should be required to have "masks off, body cameras on" and carry proper identification, as is common practice in most law en-

forcement agencies.

Alex Pretti, a 37 year-old ICU nurse, was killed by a border patrol agent on Jan. 24, two weeks after protester Renee Good was killed by an ICE officer. Administration officials, including Homeland Security Secretary Kristi Noem, originally said Pretti had aggressively approached officers, but multiple videos contradicted that claim.

Republican pushback

The president's concessions to Democrats prompted pushback from some Senate Republicans, delaying the final votes and providing a preview of the coming debate over the next two weeks. In a fiery floor speech, Trump ally Sen. Lindsey Graham of South Carolina warned that Republicans should not give away too much.

"To the Republican party, where have you been?" Graham said, adding that ICE agents and Border Patrol agents have been "slandered and smeared."

Several Republicans have said that if Democrats are going to push for restrictions on ICE, they will push for restrictions on so-called "sanctuary cities" that they say do not do enough to enforce illegal immigration.

"There no way in hell we're going to let Democrats kneecap law enforcement and stop deportations in exchange for funding DHS," said Missouri Sen. Eric Schmitt, R-Mo., ahead of the vote.

Still, some Republicans said they believe that changes to ICE's operations were necessary, even as they were unlikely to agree to all of the Democrats' requests.

STOCKS

US stocks fall while a break in gold fever sends metals prices plunging

NEW YORK (AP) — Financial markets churned on Friday as investors tried to figure out what President Donald Trump's new nominee to lead the Federal Reserve will mean for interest rates.

The value of the U.S. dollar rallied, but only after swiveling a couple times following Trump's nomination of Kevin Warsh. And some of the wildest action was again in precious metals markets, where gold and silver prices plunged following their stellar runs over the last year.

Whoever leads the Fed has a big influence on the economy and markets worldwide by helping to dictate where the U.S. central bank moves interest rates. Such decisions lift or

weigh on prices for all kinds of investments, as the Fed tries to keep the U.S. job market humming without letting inflation get out of control. Trump has been pushing for lower interest rates, which usually help goose the economy but can also cause higher inflation.

A fear in financial markets has been that the Fed will lose some of its independence because of Trump. That fear in turn helped catapult the price of gold and weaken the U.S. dollar's value over the last year.

The longtime assumption has been that the Fed should operate separately from the rest of Washington so that it can make moves that are painful in the short term but necessary for the long term.

Dow Jones	48,892.47	-179.09	GOLD	4,854.14	-526.02
S&P 500	6,939.03	-29.98	SILVER	84.29	-31.57
NASDAQ	23,461.82	-223.30	OIL	65.74	+0.32

LOTTERIES FRIDAY PENNSYLVANIA Day

DAILY	0-8-6
BIG FOUR	0-7-6-4
TREASURE HUNT	1-8-9-10-29
Night	
DAILY	3-7-4
BIG FOUR	0-5-3-0
CASH 5	5-9-17-23-27
MATCH 6	13-16-20-25-41-43
OHIO Day	
PICK 3	1-5-5
PICK 4	3-8-2-0
Night	
PICK 3	9-6-3
PICK 4	7-9-4-2
ROLLING CASH 5	6-23-27-33-34

After 200 years, the Farmers' Almanac bets on a digital reboot, new owner

PORTLAND, Maine (AP) — The Farmers' Almanac isn't going out of business after all, but it is leaving Maine for the bright lights of New York City and a new owner.

Beloved by farmers and gardeners, the almanac was first printed in 1818 and — like the arguably more famous Old Farmer's Almanac — relies on a secret formula of sunspots, planetary positions and lunar cycles to generate long-range weather forecasts.

It's been acquired by Unofficial Networks, a digital publisher focused on skiing and outdoor recreation. That means the almanac will keep operating despite announcing in November that its 208-year run was coming to an end.

A new Farmers' Almanac website will be "a living, breathing publication with fresh, daily content" and there are plans to bring back a print edition, said Tim Konrad, founder and publisher of New York-based Unofficial Networks.

"I saw the announcement that one of America's most enduring publications was set to close," Konrad said, "and it felt wrong to stand by while an irreplaceable piece of our national heritage disappeared."

The deal will prioritize "preserving and sustaining the iconic publication," according to a statement from Unofficial Networks and Peter Geiger, the almanac's longtime publisher.

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Pennsylvania Department of State
PROOF OF PUBLICATION AFFIDAVIT

INSTRUCTIONS

PUBLISHER: Send this affidavit, with a copy of the final publication attached, to the Pennsylvania Department of State

Commonwealth of Pennsylvania

County of Mercer

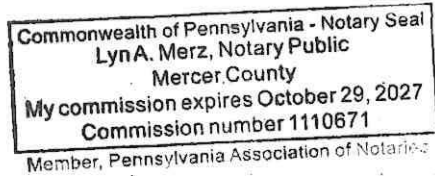
Before me, the undersigned Notary Public, this day, personally appeared James P. Rust, known to me or satisfactorily proven, who being duly sworn, deposes that he or she is Marketing Director, of the Record-Argus, a general newspaper published at Greenville, Pa and that the advertisement, of which tearsheet attached hereto, was published in the regular advertising column of said newspaper, in the editions of said newspaper, in all respects as ordered and invoiced.

Sworn and subscribed before me this and day of February, 2026

[Signature]
Signature of Affiant

[Signature]
Notary Public

My commission expires Oct. 29, 2027



*This affidavit must be made by the Owner, Publisher, or the designated agent of the owner or publisher

AFFP

57100 National Fuel Legal

Affidavit of Publication

STATE OF PA }
COUNTY OF LAWRENCE } SS

Cindy DeProspero, being duly sworn, says:

That she is Cindy DeProspero of the New Castle News, a daily newspaper of general circulation, printed and published in New Castle, Lawrence County, PA; that the publication, a copy of which is attached hereto, was published in the said newspaper on the following dates:

January 31, 2026

That said newspaper was regularly issued and circulated on those dates.

SIGNED:



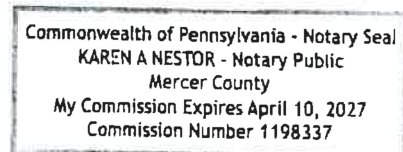
Cindy DeProspero

Subscribed to and sworn to me this 31st day of January 2026.



Karen A. Nestor, Notary Public, Lawrence County, PA

My commission expires: April 10, 2027



00005478 00159723 717-703-3033

MANSI Media
4000 CRUMS MILL ROAD
SUITE 101
HARRISBURG, PA 17112

CITY: Shenango China deed secured

FROM AL
site for future generations.”
During a Jan. 20 public hearing, city consultants expressed a desire for the city to apply for the federal grant funding.
They felt, with the EPA and state Department of Environmental Protection’s past studies and fines of the property, the city would be in a good position to receive the funding.
Matthew Perry, a partner with Hermitage-based Compliance Environmental Services, said the company has a plan to revitalize the site for a cost between \$3.6

to \$4 million to include an asbestos abatement, removal of hazardous materials, demolition and land rehabilitation.
If the full grant is awarded, the project would take four to six months for permitting and engineering, up to six months for demolition and six months to a year for the land rehab work.
Once the land is ready, Perry said the city and county could advertise it for redevelopment.
The property is currently zoned industrial, with city officials emphasizing they would like future development to remain the same.
Perry noted there are

approximately 5.5 acres that can’t be redeveloped because of a hill of hazardous materials maintained by the EPA. Perry recommended leaving that area alone for the next developer.
The city previously applied for a \$1 million state Local Share Account grant in November.
Awardees will be notified later this year.
Frye has noted the city does not want ownership of the property for long and could eventually transfer ownership to the Lawrence County Redevelopment Authority or a private owner if it doesn’t receive funding within a few years.



NICHOLAS VERCELLA | NEWS
The staff for Joseph Family Dental, including owner Dr. Paula Joseph Hasson, first row, left, sitting, inside one of the new exam rooms as part of the new 2,000-square-foot addition to the building.

MAIL: Snow delaying delivery

FROM AL
some neighborhood roads may not be.”
Gibbs said enough snow must be cleared around curbside boxes so drivers can make deliveries without danger. If snow is piled around a mailbox, a carrier might not be able to deliver mail safely, Gibbs said.
“Customers should be aware that mail destined for and arriving from areas that were heavily impacted by the storm may take extra time due to these conditions,” Gibbs said. “We ask customers to clear a path to their mailbox and front porch so delivery can resume safely.”
Lawrence County isn’t the only place where mail service has been delayed

or postponed altogether. Delays in Meadville are due to the effects of the storm and concerns for employee safety, a postal supervisor said Friday.
Staff members were limited to working no more than eight hours each day and the office was prohibited from forcing any employees to work on days they were previously scheduled to have off, said the Meadville-area supervisor, who declined to provide his name.
“We’re slowly getting back to normal,” he said. “Next week it should be the same old, same old.”
An updated posted Thursday on USPS.com similarly blamed delivery delays on the widespread extreme weather and “blocked or unsafe transportation routes.”

The strict limit on how many hours could be worked prevented many carriers from finishing their routes each day, the Meadville supervisor said.
“So we kept curtailing mail until the next day,” he added, “and they would just pick up where they left off.”
The limits were apparently driven largely by areas unused to severe winter weather.
“I think it was because it affected so many people,” he said. “If it were just us, we would’ve definitely been delivering because we deal with it all the time.”
Pete Sitranni of the New Castle News, Eric Poole of The (Sharon) Herald and Rick Green of the Meadville Tribune contributed to this report.

GARRITY: Treasurer backs Richey for Pennsylvania lieutenant governor

FROM AL
veiled shot at incumbent Democrat Gov. Josh Shapiro, saying that opportunities in Pennsylvania are in decline because of “failed policies and ineffective leadership” plus economic stagnation.
“We must turn Pennsylvania around now and I believe that Stacy Garity is the person who can fix Pennsylvania,” Richey said in a campaign press release. “I’m excited to join Stacy on the ticket that’s going to save Pennsylvania. Stacy has demonstrated leadership, fiscal discipline, and the ability to win statewide.”
In an endorsement from the Garrity for PA Campaign, Garrity said Richey “rose to the top” of multiple potential running mates while discussing options and outlook with political, civic and business leaders.
“Not only is Jason Richey an accomplished attorney, but he is also a committed civic leader in the greater Pittsburgh area. Jason understands the potential Pennsylvania has, but only if our Commonwealth has the right leadership,” Garrity said. “Jason shares my serious concerns about Josh Shapiro’s failed tenure as Governor that has placed Pennsylvania 41st nationally, and he is committed to turning Pennsylvania around. Jason Richey will not just be an incredible running mate on the campaign trail, but a terrific partner in governing for all the people of Pennsylvania.”
The ranking cited by Garrity comes from U.S. News & World Report, which explored economics, education, health care, crime and infrastructure among

other measurables to determine which of the 50 states in the U.S. was best. Pennsylvania fell into the bottom 10.
Looking back to 2022, nine Republicans eventually made the ballot for the gubernatorial primary, an election eventually

won by state Sen. Doug Mastriano. Mastriano would be defeated by Shapiro in the general election.
Richey wasn’t among those on the ballot. He had dropped out of the race roughly two months prior.

Joseph Family Dental expands, hires new associate

BY NICHOLAS VERCELLA
NEW CASTLE NEWS

Joseph Family Dental has grown, both physically and with a new associate dentist.
The Neshannock Township office held an open house on Jan. 24 to celebrate the completion of its new 2,000-square-foot addition, as well as the hiring of Dr. Noelle Peters as the new associate.
The addition increases the examination rooms to eight. The practice, for owner Dr. Paula Joseph Hasson, is now nearly 5,000 square feet with 19 employees, and has increased from its initial three exam rooms.



NICHOLAS VERCELLA | NEWS
Dr. Noelle Peters, a Neshannock Township native, is the new associate dentist at Joseph Family Dental.

Everybody is excited.”
Peters is a 2003 Neshannock High School graduate who received her undergraduate and doctorate degrees from the University of Pittsburgh.
After her year-long residency at St. Elizabeth Youngstown Hospital, she worked in the Mercer and Hermitage areas from 2012 until she found out about the opening for Hasson.
“I’m excited to be coming back to my hometown,” Peters said. “It’s a great opportunity with wonderful people.”
Peters said the facility has new equipment as well.
This allows the practice to make crowns in the office and use digital technology for X-rays and fabrication.

Notice of Proposed Rate Changes

To Our Customers:
National Fuel Gas Distribution Corporation (National Fuel or Company) is filing a request with the Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission (PUC) to increase your gas distribution rates as of March 29, 2026. This notice describes the Company’s rate request, the PUC’s role, and what actions you can take.
The Company has requested a base rate increase of \$19.7 million per year. This filing also includes a request for approval of the following alternative rate mechanisms in accordance with 68 Pa. C.S. § 1330.1: 1) Permanent Weather Normalization Adjustment; 2) Energy Efficiency (EE) pilot program for an additional \$0.7 million per year to be recovered from residential customers through a separate rider. Additionally, the Company has proposed the reactivation of the OPEB rider 1 surcredit to refund \$2.2 million for customer bill relief.
If the Company’s entire request is approved, the total bill for a residential customer using 80 ccf per month would increase from \$83.49 to \$90.28 per month, or by 8.1% including the proposed EE rider. From \$83.49 to \$88.44 per month, or by 5.9% when including the proposed OPEB rider 1 surcredit extension.
The total bill for a small commercial customer using 257 ccf per month would increase from \$189.24 to \$201.21 per month or by 6.5%. From \$189.24 to \$198.11 per month, or by 5.1% when including the proposed OPEB rider 1 surcredit extension.
The total bill for an intermediate volume industrial customer using 802 Mcf monthly would increase from \$1,905.13 to \$2,039.29 per month, or by 7.0%. From \$1,905.13 to \$1,984.36 per month, or by 4.2% when including the proposed OPEB rider 1 surcredit extension.
To find out your customer class or how the requested increase may affect your gas bill, contact National Fuel at 1-800-365-3234. The rates requested by the Company may be found in Supplement No. 294 to Tariff Gas - Pa. PUC. No. 9. You may examine the material filed with the PUC, which explains the requested increase and the reasons for it. A copy of this material is kept at National Fuel’s Consumer Assistance Centers. Upon request, the Company will send you a statement of reasons for Supplement No. 294 explaining why the Company requested the rate increase.
The state agency which approves rates for public utilities is the PUC. The PUC will examine the requested rate increase and can prevent existing rates from changing until it investigates and/or holds hearings on the request. The Company must prove that the requested rates are reasonable. After examining the evidence, the PUC may grant all, some, or none of the request or may reduce existing rates.
The PUC may change the amount of the rate increase or decrease requested by the utility for each customer class. As a result, the rate charged to you may be different than the rate requested by the Company and shown above.
There are three ways to challenge a company’s request to change its rates:
1. You can file a formal complaint. If you want a hearing before a judge, you must file a formal complaint. By filing a formal complaint, you assure yourself the opportunity to take part in hearings about the rate increase request. All complaints should be filed with the PUC before March 29, 2026. If no formal complaints are filed, the Commission may grant all, some or none of the request without holding a hearing before a judge.
2. You can send us a letter explaining why you object to the requested rate increase. Sometimes there is information in these letters that makes us aware of problems with the Company’s service or management. This information can be helpful when we investigate the rate request. Send your letter or request for a formal complaint form to the Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission, Post Office Box 3265, Harrisburg, PA 17105-3265.
3. You can be a witness at a public input hearing. Public input hearings are held if the Commission opens an investigation of the company’s rate increase request and if there is a large number of customers interested in the case. At these hearings you have the opportunity to present your views in person to the PUC judge hearing the case and the Company representatives. All testimony given “under oath” becomes part of the official rate case record. These hearings are held in the service area of the Company.
For more information, call the PUC at 1-800-692-7380. You may leave your name and address so you can be notified of any public input hearings that may be scheduled in this case.

CARDNER CARPENTER
Atty. Pamela J. Miller
DISABILITY LEGAL CLINIC
724-656-1555 or 1-800-467-5241
FILE YOUR NEW CLAIM OR APPEAL RIGHT IN OUR OFFICE
For a free consultation regarding filing a new claim or appealing a denial call our office.
35 N. Jefferson St., New Castle, PA
No Recovery Fee – Costs of Litigation Still Apply

Our Best Care for Your Best Friend
North Memorial Animal Hospital
724-656-0980

BREAKAWAY TOURS
OFFICE HOURS Mon. thru Fri. 10:00am-4:00pm
2103 Wilmington Rd. New Castle, PA 16105
www.breakawaytours.biz
724-658-9200

Jan. 31/Feb. 15....."Wicked" in Pittsburgh Matinee Performance.....	\$214
Feb./18/Apr. 14.....Meadows Casino (\$20 free play).....	\$41
Mar. 1....."Beauty and the Beast" at Benedum.....	\$189
Mar. 8-10.....Seneca Niagara Casino (\$125 slot, \$45 food).....	\$349
Mar. 14....."Chicago" in Pittsburgh.....	\$195
Mar. 19-20.....Wind Creek Casino (\$50 pkg./Murder Mystery Lunch at Mt Hope Estate.....	\$439
Mar. 28.....Pitts Strip/Phippes Easter Flower Show/Ross Park Mall.....	\$96
Mar. 28-29.....Washington, DC at Cherry Blossoms Time.....	\$369
Apr. 21-23.....Four Winds Casino Ft. Notre Dame (\$50 free play/\$30 food).....	\$459
Apr. 24.....Wine, Maple Sugar and Chocolates wineal.....	\$165
Apr. 26-29.....Lancaster "Joshua"/Amish Farmhouse Tour.....	\$499
May 20.....Rags to Riches in Ohio Dutch Country w/lunch.....	\$12
May 21.....Liberty Magic wineal at Grand Concourse.....	\$179
May 27-28....."Joshua" in Lancaster/Dutch Apple/Magic & Wonder.....	\$589
May 31-Jun. 5.....DeJuxe Ocean City, MD at Grand Hotel.....	\$925
June 6.....Three Rivers Arts Fest in Pittsburgh.....	\$60

UPDATES POSTED ON
Facebook@breakawaytoursnewcastlepa AND
Our Website www.breakawaytours.biz

PROOF OF PUBLICATION NOTICE IN THE HERALD

Commonwealth of Pennsylvania

County of Mercer

Vanessa Koper, of The Herald, having been duly sworn according to law, deposes and says The Herald is a newspaper of general circulation published at 52 South Dock Street, Sharon, Mercer County, Pennsylvania. The Herald was established May 13, 1935 and has been regularly published and issued in Mercer County since that time. The printed notice attached to affidavit is exactly the same as was printed and published in the regular edition and issue of The Herald on the dates listed below. I certify that I am duly authorized to verify this statement under oath and am not interested in the subject matter of the attached notice or advertisement. All allegations in this affidavit as to time, place and character of publication are true.

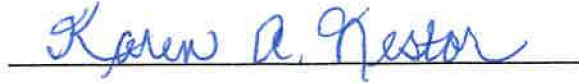


Vanessa Koper

Advertising Director

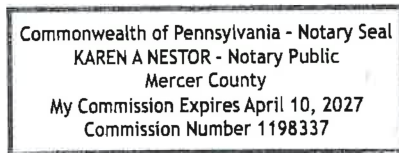
Sworn to and subscribed to before me this

28th day of January, 2026



Karen A. Nestor

My commission expires April 10, 2027



Date	Ad Caption	Size
1/28/2026	National Fuel January 2026	3 col. x 10"

NEWS ROUNDUP

Full versions of these stories are available on The Herald's website, sharonherald.com.

Senate passes government funding despite backlash

WASHINGTON — The Senate voted Friday to fund most of the government through the end of September after President Donald Trump made a deal with Democrats to carve out Homeland Security funding and allow Congress to debate new restrictions on federal immigration raids across the country.

With a weekend shutdown looming, Trump made the rare deal with Senate Democrats on Thursday in the wake of the deaths of two protesters at the hands of federal agents in Minneapolis. Under the agreement, the Homeland Security money will continue at current levels for two weeks while lawmakers consider Democratic demands to unmask agents, require more warrants and allow local authorities to help investigate any incidents.

The bill passed in a 71-29 vote. It will now head to the House, which is not due back until Monday. That means the government could be in a partial shutdown temporarily over the weekend until they pass it.

As lawmakers in both parties called for investigations into the fatal shootings by federal agents, Trump said he didn't want a shutdown and encouraged members of both parties to cast a "much needed Bipartisan 'YES' vote."

The president's concessions to Democrats prompted pushback from some Senate Republicans, delaying the final votes and providing a preview of the coming debate over the next two weeks. In a fiery floor speech, Trump ally Sen. Lindsey Graham of South Carolina warned that Republicans should not give away too much.

"To the Republican party, where have you been?" Graham said, adding that Immigration and Customs Enforcement agents and Border Patrol agents have been "slandered and smeared."

Still, some Republicans said they believe that changes to ICE's operations were necessary, even as they were unlikely to agree to all of the Democrats' requests.

East Coast face arctic blast without power

BELZONI, Miss. — As tens of thousands of people endured nearly a week with no electricity, another storm loomed on the East Coast where residents braced for near-hurricane force winds, heavy snow and potential flooding.

More than 230,000 homes and businesses were without electricity Friday, with the vast majority of those outages in Mississippi and Tennessee, according to the outage tracking website poweroutage.us.

In Mississippi's Lafayette County, where about 12,000 people were still without electricity midday Friday, emergency management agency spokesperson Beau Moore said he knows not everyone will get power back before the cold hits.

"It's a race against time to get it on for those we can get it on for," Moore said.

Workers are attacking the project by ground and air. A video on the Ten-



AP file

With a partial government shutdown looming by week's end, Senate Majority Leader John Thune, R-S.D., speaks to reporters following a closed-door meeting with fellow Republicans on spending legislation that funds the Department of Homeland Security and a swath of other government agencies as the country reels from the deaths of two people at the hands of federal agents in Minneapolis, at the Capitol in Washington, Wednesday.

nessee Valley Authority's Facebook page shows a worker sitting on the skids of a hovering helicopter so they can repair a giant power structure.

Arctic air moving into the Southeast will cause already frigid temperatures to plummet into the teens (minus 10 Celsius) on Friday night in cities like Nashville, Tennessee, where many still lacked power nearly a week after a massive storm dumped snow and ice across the eastern U.S., the National Weather Service said.

Forecasters say the subfreezing weather will persist in the eastern U.S. into February and there's high chance of heavy snow in the Carolinas, Virginia and northeast Georgia this weekend, possibly up to a foot (30 centimeters) in parts of North Carolina. Snow is also possible along the East Coast from Maryland to Maine.

On Saturday night and early Sunday, forecasters expect wind and snow that could lead to blizzard conditions before the storm starts to move to sea.

White House approves new \$6.67B arms sales to Israel

WASHINGTON — The Trump administration has approved a new arms sales package to Israel totaling \$6.67 billion, including 30 Apache attack helicopters and related equipment and weapons, as well as 3,250 light tactical vehicles.

The State Department announced the four separate sales to Israel late Friday amid rising tensions in the Middle East over the possibility of U.S. military strikes in Iran.

The sales also were announced as President Donald Trump pushes ahead with his ceasefire plan for Gaza that is intended to end the Israel-Hamas conflict and reconstruct and redevelop the Palestinian territory after two years of war left it devastated, with tens of thousands dead.

The Apache helicopters, which will be equipped with rocket launchers and advanced targeting gear, are the biggest part of the total package, coming to \$3.8 billion, according to the State Department, which notified Congress of its approval of the sales on Friday.

The next largest portion is the light tactical vehicles, which will be used to move personnel and logistics "to extend lines of communication" for the Israel Defense Forces and will cost \$1.98 billion, it said.

Israel will spend an additional \$740 million on power packs for armored personnel carriers it has had in service since 2008, the department said. The

remaining \$150 million will be spent on a small but unreported number of light utility helicopters to complement similar equipment it already has, it said.

Huge cache of Epstein documents released

WASHINGTON — A huge new tranche of files on millionaire financier and sex offender Jeffrey Epstein released Friday revealed details of his communications with the wealthy and powerful, some not long before he died by suicide in 2019.

The Justice Department said it was disclosing more than 3 million pages of documents, as well as thousands of videos and photos, as required by a law passed by Congress. By Friday evening, more than 600,000 documents had been published online. Millions of files that prosecutors had identified as potentially subject to release under the law remain under wraps, however, drawing criticism from Democrats.

Here's what we know so far about the files now being reviewed by a team of Associated Press reporters:

The documents show Epstein exchanged hundreds of friendly texts with Steve Bannon, a top advisor to President Donald Trump, some months before Epstein's death.

They discussed politics, travel and a documentary Bannon was said to be planning that would help salvage Epstein's reputation.

In March 2019, Bannon asked Epstein if he could supply his plane to pick him up in Rome.

A couple of months later, Epstein messaged to Bannon: "Now you can understand why trump wakes up in the middle of the night sweating when he hears you and I are friends."

The context is unclear from the documents, which were released with many redactions and little clear organization.

8 inmates escape from rural Louisiana jail

LAKE PROVIDENCE, La. — Louisiana authorities said Friday that eight inmates escaped from a rural jail, including some facing murder charges, setting off another manhunt in a state where bold jail breakouts over the past year have exposed security breakdowns.

Officials have not said how the escape unfolded in East Carroll Parish, an area of about 7,000 residents along the state's borders with Arkansas and Mississippi. The Louisiana State Police said three of the inmates had been captured as of Friday afternoon and that all were considered violent

offenders.

"Do not approach under any circumstances," state police said in a statement posted to social media.

The inmates were reported missing from the Riverbend Detention Center in Lake Providence around 1:20 a.m. Friday, according to state police.

Last year in Louisiana, 10 inmates broke out of a New Orleans jail after crawling through a hole behind a toilet. It wasn't until five months later that all of them were captured following a search that spanned multiple states.

In December, three inmates escaped from a different Louisiana jail after removing concrete blocks from a deteriorating wall.

Louisiana Attorney General Liz Murrill posted on X that she had "offered the full assistance of my office" and had been in contact with the local sheriff and president of the state's sheriff's association.

Mayors: immigration tactics could dent trust

WASHINGTON — Elizabeth Kautz says she now carries her passport around the Minneapolis suburb where she's been

the mayor since 1995.

"Those ICE agents don't know that I'm the mayor of the city of Burnsville," Kautz, a Republican who has occasionally diverted from the Trump administration's views, said Wednesday as the United States Conference of Mayors opened its meeting in Washington. "I could be coming out of a store and be harassed so I need to make sure that I have credentials on me."

Her comments reflected a sense of frustration and exasperation hanging over the gathering of mayors, which would typically be a venue for leaders to strategize over issues ranging from affordable housing and transit to climate change and addressing urban violence.

But much of that was overshadowed by the fallout from the killing of Alex Jeffrey Pretti by two federal agents in Minneapolis on Saturday, reigniting a national debate over the Trump administration's aggressive law enforcement tactics, which have often focused on cities.

"There has been no more urgent challenge facing all Americans these past few weeks than the chaos in Minnesota stemming from an unprecedented surge in immigration enforcement," said Oklahoma City Mayor David Holt, a Republican who is the conference's president this year.

Multiple mayors said they appreciated President Donald Trump's nod this week toward deescalating the federal government's operation in Minnesota, adding that they agreed with the administration's goal of deporting undocumented immigrants who have committed crimes.

Boat was carrying 7 people when it sank off Mass.

GLOUCESTER, Mass. — A commercial fishing vessel that was presumed to sink off the coast of Massachusetts on Friday was carrying a crew of seven people and the U.S. Coast Guard was expect-

ed to maintain a search for survivors around the clock.

The Coast Guard launched a search and rescue mission early Friday after receiving an alert from the 72-foot Lily Jean about 25 miles off Cape Ann. They located a debris field near where the alert was sent along with a body in the water.

"We will continue to search throughout the night with the cutter, hoping to find additional folks as we continue," the Coast Guard's Timothy Jones said, adding that the crew was "coming back full of fish" and may have had problems with their fishing gear that required them to return for repairs.

The Lily Jean, its captain, Gus Sanfilippo, and his crew were featured in a 2012 episode of the History Channel show "Nor'Easter Men." Sanfilippo is described as a fifth-generation commercial fisherman, fishing out of Gloucester, Massachusetts, in the Georges Bank. The crew is shown working in dangerous weather conditions for hours on end, spending as many as 10 days at sea on one trip fishing for haddock, lobster and flounder.

Gloucester is often described as America's oldest working seaport, with a fishing industry that goes back more than 400 years.

The city, where the reality television show "Wicked Tuna" about Atlantic bluefin tuna fishermen was based, has been the site of maritime tragedy over the years. Among them was the FV Andrea Gail, which went missing at sea in 1991. The loss of the Andrea Gail was the basis of the 1997 book and 2000 movie "The Perfect Storm." In another tragedy, four fishermen died when the Emmy Rose sank in 2020 off Provincetown, Massachusetts, on its way to Gloucester.

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There are three ways to challenge a company's request to change its rates:

- You can file a formal complaint. If you want a hearing before a judge, you must file a formal complaint.** By filing a formal complaint, you assure yourself the opportunity to take part in hearings about the rate increase request. All complaints should be filed with the PUC before March 29, 2026. If no formal complaints are filed, the Commission may grant all, some or none of the request without holding a hearing before a judge.
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AP file