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Nonprofit Partnership

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GPNP Upcoming Educational Events

Sustainable Cybersecurity Management for Not-For-Profits: Why It is Critical to Review Your Program Now

September 12, 2018

1:00-3:00 PM

5 PPG Place, Suite 250
Pittsburgh, PA 15222

TO MERGE OR NOT TO MERGE: THAT REALLY IS NOT THE QUESTION?

September 14, 2018

9:00-10:30 AM

EQT Plaza 625 Liberty Avenue
Pittsburgh, PA 15222

2018 GPNP Annual Meeting

November 29, 2018

9:00-11:00 AM

Carnegie Music Hall
4400 Forbes Avenue
Pittsburgh, PA 15213

Southwestern PA Forces of Change Survey

Our region's transportation planning body, Southwestern PA Commission, is in the midst of its current long-range plan. This plan decides how state and federal transportation funds – roughly \$1 billion/yr, including public transit – are spent throughout southwestern PA. We need your help in representing your community's desires through this survey and spreading the word through your networks. [Click here for the survey.](#)

To capture a variety of perspectives across Southwestern Pennsylvania, we ask for your help to spread the word. Please share this survey and information to

friends, family, and colleagues. The survey only takes about 10 minutes and can be done via desktop or mobile device.

Federal Policy News

- ["Nonprofits Applaud Senate for Passage of Spending Bill Without anti-Johnson Amendment Rider," National Council of Nonprofits, 8/1/18](#)
- ["Senate Dems make 'unprecedented' FOIA request for Kavanaugh documents," The Hill, 8/8/18](#)
- ["Senate Dems press Sessions for records on racial discrimination complaints," The Hill, 8/7/18](#)
- ["GOP lawmaker introduces bill to fund border wall by trimming foreign aid," The Hill, 8/7/18](#)
- ["ACLU to sue Sessions for changing asylum protections for immigrants fleeing violence," The Hill, 8/7/18](#)
- ["Trump officials push states to take power over more waterways," The Hill, 8/7/18](#)
- ["Trump administration gives insurers power to lower Medicare drug prices," The Hill, 8/7/18](#)
- ["Baltimore poised to become first major city to ban privatization of water," The Hill, 8/6/18](#)
- ["Trump gives thumbs up to prison sentencing reform bill at pivotal meeting," The Hill, 8/3/18](#)
- ["New Trump administration rule will require hospitals post prices online," The Hill, 8/3/18](#)

Election Updates

- ["A record number of LGBTQ candidates are running for state seats. Is Harrisburg ready?," The Incline, 8/8/18](#)
- ["Barletta Bus Tour Begins With Visit To Western PA," WESA, 8/7/18](#)
- ["Wolf Sets Up Commission To Address LGBTQ-Related Issues," WESA, 8/7/18](#)
- ["Wagner Updates His Tune On Climate Change," WESA, 8/7/18](#)
- ["'Young and naive' climate activist Rose Strauss wants a word with Pa. Gov. Tom Wolf," The Incline, 8/7/18](#)

Pennsylvania News

First month of FY2018-19 revenues are in, and PA started off the year in decent shape

The first month of Fiscal Year 2018-19 has come to a close, which means collected General Fund revenues for the month of July have been tallied. And according to state officials, Pennsylvania started off the year by collecting a total of a bit more than \$2.2 billion. While the state Department of Revenue hasn't finalized its monthly revenue estimates just yet, the Independent Fiscal

Office issued its estimates earlier last week. Based on IFO figures found in its latest [Monthly Trends report](#), the state's General Fund take in July was \$12 million above IFO estimates, which the agency chalked up to higher-than-expected purchasing by Pennsylvanians (particularly car buying), as the state's Sales and Use Tax collections were \$24 million, or about 2.4 percent, more than anticipated. The two other revenue sources that make up the state's "big three" – the Personal Income Tax (PIT) and the Corporate Net Income Tax (CNIT) – combined, produced revenue that was, roughly, on estimate (PIT revenue was about \$2 million more than expected, while CNIT revenue was about \$2 million less). What mostly leveled things out, according to the IFO, was lower than anticipated escheats (essentially, unclaimed property of which the state assumes ownership until the rightful owner files a claim) collections – which were below estimate by \$22 million. Earlier this week, state Treasurer Joe Torsella highlighted recent legislative changes that better protect consumers from having their investment accounts inadvertently reported as unclaimed property. The IFO noted that July and August normally produce less toward the General Fund than other months, suggesting "September collections will include both CNIT and PIT quarterly estimated payments and should be a better indicator of how collections are performing relative to revenue estimates for the fiscal year."

Source: Capitolwire: Under the Dome

DHS closed its Hamburg Center on Friday.

The state Department of Human Services' Hamburg State Center for people with intellectual and/or developmental disabilities will officially closed on Friday. It had been about 19 months since the agency announced on Jan.11, 2017 the planned closure of the 154-acre Berks County facility, where, at the time of that announcement, 80 individuals had been living. During the past 19 months, those 80 residents have been transitioned into community living arrangements. "Research shows that when an individual with an intellectual or developmental disability lives in a community setting, quality of life improves, and more opportunities arise for social participation, community integration, relationships with family and friends, and employment," said DHS Secretary Teresa Miller in July when the Aug.3 closing date was announced. "Transitioning residents of the Hamburg State Center will help them grow and thrive in new ways and sets the foundation for a long-term increased quality of life." As for the people who worked at the Hamburg Center, Gov. Tom Wolf's administration says the Office of Administration, Human Resources, and Labor Relations have been able to secure employment opportunities for the majority of the 351 employees who were employed at the facility. Most of the employees have either transferred to other commonwealth employment opportunities or have retired, according to the administration.

Source: Capitolwire: Under the Dome

Trump administration plans to freeze vehicle gas mileage requirements after 2020, challenge CA waiver

President Donald Trump's administration has announced it will seek to freeze vehicle gas mileage standards when they reach the level set for them in 2020. Back in 2012, then-President Barack Obama's administration implemented new regulations that would increase those mileage standards to an average 51.4 miles per gallon (mpg) by 2025 (although, using the complex government calculations regarding the standards, the "real world" result would be roughly 36 mpg on the road, up from 25 mpg today). For 2020, the mileage standard is roughly 37 mpg, but, as already noted, the "real world" result would be lower. As

part of the 2012 regulation, the federal EPA needed to decide by April 2018 whether to modify the 2022–2025 model year vehicle emission rules, requiring a “midterm review” of the rulemaking. Days before Trump took office, the Obama administration’s EPA ended that review – after it had started just two months earlier – saying it was satisfied with the standards. In March 2017, Trump announced his administration would reopen that review of the standards. As part of last Thursday’s announcement of the planned mileage standards freeze, Trump’s EPA and National Highway Traffic Safety Administration said the administration would seek public comment regarding that proposal and a range of others, including leaving the tighter, Obama administration fuel standards in place. In addition to the freeze, the Trump administration has also indicated its desire to remove the ability of California and other states to implement stricter rules regarding air quality (which include mileage standards) than those employed by the federal government. Pennsylvania has implemented some of California’s tougher rules. “Our proposal aims to strike the right regulatory balance based on the most recent information and create a 50-state solution that will enable more Americans to afford, newer, safer vehicles that pollute less,” acting EPA Director Andrew Wheeler said in a statement. “More realistic standards can save lives while continuing to improve the environment.” Given their complaints last week about what they anticipated would be the Trump administration’s action regarding the mileage standards, it’s not a shock the Wolf administration and Pennsylvania environmental groups oppose Trump’s plan, with lawsuits sure to follow.

Source: Capitolwire: Under the Dome

PA Supreme Court selects ‘Kids for Cash,’ Sandusky trial judge to be special master in clergy sex abuse grand jury report review

Late last week, the state Supreme Court [provided notice](#) it had selected the special master to oversee the process to redact from the clergy sex abuse grand jury report, at least temporarily (until further argument can be held and considered by the court), “discrete, false or unsupported information.” Retired Judge John Cleland, who is no stranger to high profile cases, has been tapped by the court to adjudicate all issues and employ protocols “affording Appellants -- and all others with challenges to the grand jury report pending in other cases -- the opportunity to voice discrete objections.” Cleland is the same judge who steered a panel that investigated the Kids for Cash scandal and presided over the highly publicized child sexual abuse trial of former Penn State assistant football coach Jerry Sandusky. The court’s order gives anyone wishing to file an appeal to contents of the report until 1 p.m. on Aug. 7 to file such an appeal. If no appeals are received, the special master is directed to release the interim report and its associated responses on Aug. 8 (by 2 p.m.). If challenges are received, the special master has about a week to review them and make additional changes to the report, which would then be released by 2 p.m. on Aug. 14.

Source: Capitolwire: Under the Dome

Wolf administration continues push to address ‘pay equity.’

The Governor’s Office, this time with the help of the governor’s wife, continues to push for changes to wage laws to address perceived wage inequality that the business community argues isn’t supported by the facts. About two months ago, Gov. Tom Wolf signed an executive order, affecting a minimal number of state employees (since most are covered by collective bargaining agreements), that directs state agencies under the Governor’s jurisdiction to no longer ask job applicants their salary history during the hiring process; base salaries on job responsibilities, position pay range, and the applicant’s job knowledge and skills;

and clearly explain the pay range on job postings – all with the purpose of addressing what some consider to be a gap between the wages of men and women. On Monday, Pennsylvania First Lady Frances Wolf hosted a roundtable discussion focused on the same perceived inequities. Pennsylvania business leaders, when the governor signed his executive order in June, applauded the governor’s commitment to ensure pay equity, something the business community indicated is their goal as well. However, representatives of that community also noted the claims of significant pay inequity are not supported by federal statistics, and are already covered by existing federal and state wage laws.

Source Capitolwire: Under the Dome

Sunoco fined \$148,000 for violations during Mariner East 2 pipeline construction

Last week the state lifted a portion of an injunction preventing the continued construction of Sunoco’s Mariner East 2 pipeline in Chester County. However, on Monday, state officials announced \$148,000 in fines against the company for violations of state law during some of Sunoco’s construction activity. “Sunoco’s actions violated the law and will not be tolerated,” said state Environmental Secretary Patrick McDonnell in a statement. “Sunoco cannot impact water supplies. If it does, Sunoco must address those impacts to the satisfaction of the water supply’s owner, including replacement or restoration of the impacted water supply.” According to the DEP, the violations of the Clean Streams Law and Dam Safety and Encroachment Act occurred in Berks, Chester, and Lebanon counties. The department says in all three counties, Sunoco impacted the private water supplies of several citizens by causing cloudy, turbid, discolored and/or lost water in their wells, in addition to causing pollution and potential pollution to waters of the commonwealth. Additionally, DEP says in Chester County, Sunoco failed to immediately notify the state agency of the adverse impacts to the private water supplies. The collected penalty will be divided and deposited into the Clean Water Fund and the Dams and Encroachments Fund. In February, Sunoco agreed to pay [a \\$12.6 million fine](#) for permit violations related to the construction of the \$2.5 billion pipeline. Additional information, including the Consent Assessment of Civil Penalty and supporting documents, can be found on the DEP website’s [the Mariner East 2 page](#).

Source Capitolwire: Under the Dome

Legislation

- [HB 2583: Amends Title 51 re burial benefits](#)
- [HB 929: Amends Unfair Trades Practices Law re contract](#)
- [HB 2584: Amends Small Games of Chance Act re permits](#)
- [HB 2586: Amends Public Employe Relations Act re strikes](#)
- [HB 2588: Amends Title 42 re sentencing](#)
- [HB 2589: Amends Title 18 re expungement](#)
- [HB 2590: Act re Stucco Remediation Assistance Fund](#)

Prepared by:



Denny Civic Solutions

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