



**Center for Beef Excellence**  
**Beef Bytes**  
**April 23, 2010**

Dear Friends,

April marks National Pest Management Month and we are proud to represent the PA Pest Management Association. Find a professional or tips on pest control at:

<http://www.pestworld.org/for-consumers>.

Looking forward, May is beef month. Visit the Center for Beef Excellence at [www.beefexcellence.org](http://www.beefexcellence.org) to market animals, equipment and services on the CBE web site.

Check federal grant opportunities at this site: <http://www.federalgrantswire.com/department-of-agriculture-federal-grants.html>.

Have a nice day.

MeeCee

**Articles of Interest**

REMINDER...

The Beef Cattle Institute at Kansas State University will host the 2010 International Symposium on Beef Cattle Welfare, May 19-21st on the K-State Campus. The BCI has an outstanding line up of speakers, who are all leading experts in the field of animal well-being.

For more information please visit the symposium website, [www.isbcw.beefcattleinstitute.org](http://www.isbcw.beefcattleinstitute.org).

The meeting will be held on the K-State Campus with a live web cast option. This option will allow your students, faculty and staff to be part of this meeting without having to travel to Manhattan. A Group Live Web Cast is only \$500. For more information about this option please see the "Live Web Cast Requirements" (<http://tiny.cc/LiveWebCast>) on the web site. Thirteen hours of Continuing Education credit will also be available.

See "Registration and Pricing" (<http://tiny.cc/Registrationandpricing>) to get registered.

<http://www.baltimoresun.com/news/opinion/oped/bs-ed-humane-society-extremism-20100422,0,5649951.story>

Farmers and ranchers across the country have long known what many Americans are just now learning. The Humane Society of the United States (HSUS) is a political machine masquerading as an umbrella organization for local humane societies.

- 04-23-2010      **[PDA Secretary: Locally Produced Food Benefits PA Consumers, Economy, Environment](#)**  
(Press Release)
- 04-22-2010      **[PDA Secretary Marks Earth Day by Highlighting Industry's Work in Conservation](#)**  
(Press Release)
- 04-22-2010      **[New natural and green products sprout up](#)**  
Just a few years ago, people with strong feelings for the environment were referred to as tree huggers at best and considered part of the cultural fringe. They were offered Birkenstocks, organic cotton and a limited number of products to support their eco-friendly lifestyle while consumer... - [POST-GAZ.](#)
- 04-22-2010      **[Farmers' markets cropping up everywhere](#)**  
The season of farmers' markets is quickly approaching, and this year, organically inclined shoppers have more options than ever before. "Farmers' markets are cropping up everywhere," said Bob Simmons, co-owner of Simmons Farm in McMurray. "They've become more and more important,... - [TRIB](#)
- 04-21-2010      **[PFB: Motorists Urged to Drive with Caution as Farm Vehicles Return to PA Roads](#)**  
(Press Release)
- 04-21-2010      **[Ellen Gray: 'Food, Inc.' has a beef with U.S. food policies](#)**  
By Ellen Gray Philadelphia Daily News Daily News TV Critic P.O.V.: FOOD, INC. 10 tonight, Channel 12. THEY SAY you shouldn't go grocery shopping when you're hungry. But you might be neither hungry nor in the mood to do much shopping after a look at PBS' "P.O.V.," which kicks off its 23rd season tonight with Robert... - [DAILY NEWS](#)
- 04-21-2010      **[Forum focuses on farming in Washington region](#)**  
FREDERICK, Md. — Farmers from Maryland, Pennsylvania, Virginia

and West Virginia are gathering in Frederick for a forum on agriculture in the national capital region... - [AP](#)

04-20-2010 [\*\*PA Ag Secretary Outlines Recommendations to Help Dairy Farmers w/ Low Prices\*\*](#)

(Press Release)

04-20-2010 [\*\*Tainted raw milk blamed for Butler County man's paralytic illness\*\*](#)

Like a growing number of people throughout the nation, James and Maureen Orchard began drinking raw milk after learning about its purported nutritional value. "We started last spring and just continued," said Maureen Orchard, 67, who lives in Adams in Butler County with her husband. "We read some Web sites... - [TRIB](#)

04-20-2010 [\*\*Composting facility starts construction\*\*](#)

Construction began Monday on a unique \$1.5 million composting facility that promises both public and private benefits. Groundbreaking was held for Oregon Dairy Organics, on the Oregon Dairy property at 2900 Oregon Pike in Manheim Township. About 45 people, including state Secretary of Agriculture Russell Redding,... - [INTELLIGENCER JOURNAL](#)

04-19-2010 [\*\*USDA: Weekly Crop and Weather Roundup for the Week Ending April 18, 2010\*\*](#)

(Press Release)

04-19-2010 [\*\*USDA: Milk Production in PA Up 1.6 Percent in March\*\*](#)

(Press Release)

04-19-2010 [\*\*Ag Secretary Helps Break Ground for Unique Facility to Turn Manure Into Money\*\*](#)

(Press Release)

### ***Legislative Interests***

[HB 2260](#)

[Houghton](#)

Amends Title 3 (Agriculture) providing for the registration, licensing & use of a PA Preferred trademark; establishing the Pennsylvania Preferred Trademark Licensing Fund; and providing for penalties & for enforcement.

**Printer Number(s):** [P3223](#)

**Bill History:** 04-22-10 H Hearing set for 10:30 a.m., Penn Twp Community Bldg. ...House Agriculture and Rural Affairs  
04-22-10 H Public hearing held in committee House Agriculture and Rural Affairs

[SB 1323](#) [Brubaker](#) Amends Title 75 (Vehicles), in general provisions, further providing for definitions; for registration & farm vehicle plates use; for inspection & definitions of commercial drivers, for load security, width & regis. gross weight.

**Printer Number(s):** [P1877](#)

**Bill History:** 04-20-10 S Filed  
04-20-10 S Introduced and referred to committee on Senate Transportation

## **Weekly Letter**

The 40th annual Earth Day celebration was held this Thursday, with people around the world gathering to honor Mother Earth. Of note, it's been a mere 41 years since Randy Newman sang of Cleveland's Cuyahoga River going smokin' through his dreams. Yeah, we've come quite far on environmental protection. We haven't had a major river catch on fire in a long time.

Governor Ed Rendell this week formally asked the legislature to convene a Special Session to address the \$2 billion transportation funding shortfall in Pennsylvania. Special Sessions are, to be frank, not very effective tools for getting substantive results (Remember all the Special Sessions on property tax reform? They seem reformed to you yet?). But we can't blame the governor for throwing the long ball. He's got zero arrows left in the quiver. The emerging opinion in Harrisburg is that the General Assembly, and ultimately Rendell, will drop back eight yards and punt this problem to incoming the incoming Governor – whoever that may be.

In a move that is certain to make him as popular among his colleagues as Ben Roethlisberger currently is, outgoing EQT Corp. Chairman Murry Gerber this week said he thinks the natural gas drilling industry does, in fact, need an extraction tax. His twist, however, is that any extraction tax should be entirely dedicated to local municipalities, with a hot glass of nothing going to the state. Novel idea, yes, but you might live a long time before you see an elected official vote for a tax, only to then hand all the proceeds to someone else. And by live a long time, we mean live until the sun burns out.

In other Marcellus Shale news, the State House Democrats are poised and ready to vote on a measure that would establish a moratorium on state forest leases for natural gas drilling.

This would potentially blow another \$100 million hole in the state budget, which would then (as the theory goes) force the Senate GOP to vote for the aforementioned extraction tax to fill the hole. This domino strategy, aside from being incredibly complex, is also fatally-flawed. In case your recall of recent history fails you, we will refresh everyone's memory. When faced with expanding budget holes, the State Senate GOP priorities are (1) Cut spending, (2) Cut spending, and (3) Cut spending. So when another \$100 million gets lopped off of the Department of Public Welfare budget, we will know why.

The state Senate, when it is not sharpening budget axes and laughing maniacally, is also getting ready to launch a public battle over the expiring Education Empowerment Act. In theory, the new plan is supposed to deal with the progress of all distressed schools, but we know the only real game in town is the Harrisburg City School District. Senator Jeff Piccola has started the debate on who exactly should be in charge of the Cap City schools: the locally-elected board, a state-appointed board, a mayoral-appointed board, a hybrid of all the above, or a panel of outgoing Goldman Sachs investors. Not since Janet Jackson sang about it has so much noise been made about "control." It is a shame there has been considerably less noise being generated about the actual kids who attend the school.

The Philadelphia City School District is ready to move forward on a \$3.2 billion budget, one that represents a 4.5% increase over last year. The school budget is based on the education funding numbers in the House-passed version of the state budget, which is usually a safe bet. This year, however, there have already been rumbles that some members of the Senate GOP are ready to step up and slice Rendell's education number. If this happens, local school budgets are going to be thrown into chaos, and property tax increases will surely follow – which will be followed by a furious round of finger-pointing.

We mentioned last week that a state lawmaker proposed, for what we jokingly referred to as the 7,000th time, the legalization of video poker in bars. On the heels of that announcement came another one of those try, try again Rasputin-like legislative proposals that have been around since the beginning of time. Yes, a plan to sell the state liquor stores has re-emerged. This time, the proceeds are set to go to solidifying the state's flagging public pension funds. Gambling for roads, booze for pensions, money for nothing. Sweet.

Some things in life seem like common sense. You don't tug on Superman's cape; you don't spit into the wind. Along comes a Temple University study on staffing levels, and while the findings should be common sense, we remain a bit taken aback. Sure, more on-duty nurses in a hospital would have to result in better care. Common sense. But the study also found that Pennsylvania, because it does not mandate safe nursing levels, might be unnecessarily losing up to 13% of its surgical patients (And by "losing" we don't mean misplacing those folks in random broom closets. We mean "losing" them to the afterlife.). One hundred go in; 87 come out. Yikes. If a Major League Baseball umpire missed 13 out of every 100 calls, he'd be canned.

In this week's edition of "What your budget cuts can do for you" we take a look at the upcoming proposed cut to community-based mental retardation care programs. Governor Rendell is being pounded by lawmakers for his proposed 1% cut in those services (the first such cut in his tenure, he will be quick to tell you.) This will leave a long, tragic line of folks who need this care and cannot access it. Next week, some of the same lawmakers who are skewering the governor over this particular budget cut will be calling him a tax-and-spend liberal, and demanding more budget cuts. Which is why next year at this time, Governor Ed Rendell will be one of the happiest people walking the planet.

Perhaps the preceding item was the reason the governor went out of his way to dismiss, marginalize and almost outright ridicule a panel created by the General Assembly to recommend cost-cutting measures. The governor, after all, is entering his third consecutive recession-era budget, and he's a bit weary of being told how many more pints of blood to squeeze from the pile of rocks in the corner.

In the very same week we learned that the U.S. government no longer owns General Motors (loans have been paid in full), Philadelphia got some welcomed news on the auto-maker front. Hyundai and Kia announced this week that they have chosen Philly as their port of entry for thousands of shiny new vehicles, a move that will create lots of jobs in the area. Kudos to the Philly ports, and kudos to GM, although we enjoyed telling our relatives that we owned a giant U.S. car company.

In other job-related news, Allegheny County Council has become the latest government unit to pass a living/prevaling wage bill, one that will force developers who use county funds to pay higher wages for janitorial and other service workers at those projects. The era of using public money with few strings attached seems to be, if not ending, turning a very significant corner. Developers, of course, claim these ordinances will stop people from ever building anything, anywhere, forcing us all back to an agrarian economy. Janitors and other service workers say "Wow, so I can feed my kids? Neat."

The race between Joe Sestak and U.S. Senator Arlen Specter turned nasty this week, as Specter unveiled a negative (or as some call it, comparative) ad accusing Sestak of being asleep at the ship during his Navy career. Sestak yelled "Swift Boat!" in return, and even ran to Vice-President Joe Biden to tattletale on Arlen for being mean. Biden told Sestak to "ignore the F@&\*%ing ad and stay focused."

All of this back-and-forth actually might mean something in the grand scheme, since a new Rasmussen poll shows that Sestak, trailing by double digits in most other polls, has drawn even. Rasmussen also announced that the race for governor between Ed Rendell and Lynn Swann does indeed look too close to call at this point.

Finally this week, the Air Force launched a super-secret spy plane. So secret, in fact, we learned about it almost immediately. Oh, and the Air Force has no idea when the plane might return from space. This doesn't have a whole lot to do with Pennsylvania politics or policy, but we thought you'd be interested in how government entities with no balanced-budget requirements (the feds) operate as opposed to states that have Constitutional mandates for a balanced budget (us.) One of them cuts funding for community-based services; one of them fires a plane into space and hopes to see it again someday.

That's the size and shape of it from Harrisburg this week. April is winding down, the primary elections are on the horizon, and the state budget is set on simmer. Talk to you again next week.

### ***Around the Capitol***

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**GOVERNOR CAMPAIGNS COULD AFFECT NATIONALLY WATCHED CONGRESSIONAL SEAT** - The major TV ad spending by Democrats running for governor and coming spending by a Republican candidate for that office could affect a special election for Congress May 18, said one analyst. While most candidates are just seeking their party's nomination on May 18 for the fall general election, Republican Tim Burns and Democrat Mark Critz are both seeking their party's nomination against challengers. They are also vying as their party's nominees in a special election that day to replace the late U.S. Rep. Jack Murtha, D-Johnstown. With the millions of dollars in television ads being broadcast by Democratic candidates for both governor and U.S. Senate, G. Terry Madonna of Franklin & Marshall College thinks the airwave battles could give Critz a voter turnout edge on May 18.

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**CIVERA BIDS HOUSE COLLEAGUES FAREWELL** -Rep. Mario Civera, R-Delaware, said goodbye to his colleagues in the state House of Representatives on Tuesday. Even though his resignation won't be effective until April 30, Civera yesterday offered a few parting remarks to the full chamber. A special election date for the 164th District seat hasn't been set yet, but it won't be held on May 18: a special election to fill a state House seat cannot be held until 60 days after the member leaves office.

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**SENATE CONFIRMS DICHTER AS PUBLIC WELFARE SECRETARY**- The state Senate voted unanimously Tuesday to approve Gov. Ed Rendell's nomination of Harriet Dichter as Secretary of Public Welfare. Dichter was nominated by Rendell to replace Estelle Richman, who was Rendell's Public Welfare Department secretary until she took a job as chief operating officer at the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development. Prior to her nomination in December as department secretary, Dichter served as deputy secretary for the Office of Child Development and Early Learning for the departments of Public Welfare and Education. According to the Rendell administration, Dichter led the state's effort to bolster early education and care for Pennsylvania children, overseeing planning, program and policy development and implementation for a total investment of \$1.3 billion. Earlier in the day, Dichter's nomination received unanimous approval from both the Senate Public Health and Welfare and Rules and Executive Nominations committees.

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**STATE EDUCATION SECRETARY ZAHORCHAK HIRED AS SUPERINTENDENT OF ALLENTOWN SCHOOL DISTRICT** - Pennsylvania Education Secretary Gerald L.

Zahorchak, 52, was hired as superintendent of the Allentown School District Thursday night. According to Department of Education officials, Zahorchak was offered a five-year contract by Allentown.

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***Legislative Developments***

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**House Session Schedule**

April	26, 27, 28
May	3, 4, 5, 24, 25, 26
June	7, 8, 9, 14, 15, 16, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30

**The House** stands in recess until Monday, April 26, at 1:00 p.m. or to the call of the Chair.

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House Republican Policy Committee will hold a public hearing at 9:00 a.m. on Monday, April 26, 2010 in Room 418 Main Capitol on legislative proposals to provide for PA's transportation infrastructure needs.

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House Tourism and Recreational Development will hold a public hearing at 9:00 a.m. on Monday, April 26, 2010 in Room 205 Ryan Office Building on **HB 1651 (Kirkland)** Amends Tax Reform Code further providing, in hotel occupancy tax, for definitions.

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House Rules will hold an Off the Floor on Mon. April 26, 2010 in Room 140 Main Capitol to consider **HB 464 (White, J.)** Amends act regulating the sale & resale for profit & carrying on of the business of selling or reselling tickets for admission to places of amusement; for licensing; suspension of license; providing for ticket purchasing software & penalties; **HB 961 (Buxton)** Amends the Municipal Waste Planning, Recycling and Waste Reduction Act, in recycling fee, further providing for recycling fee for municipal waste landfills and resource recovery facilities; **SB 81 (Earll)** Amends the Liquor Code, further defining "eligible entity" & other definitions; for general board powers, wine marketing, Sunday liquor sales, for interlocking business prohibited, number & kinds of licenses & unlawful liquor acts.

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House Appropriations will hold an Off the Floor meeting on Monday, April 26, 2010 in Room 140 Main Capitol. Agenda will be announced.

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House Local Government will hold a meeting at 9:00 a.m. on Tue. April 27, 2010 in Room G-50, Irvis Office Building to consider **HB 2020 (Seip)** Amends The Fourth to Eighth Class and Selective County Assessment Law further providing for appeals by municipalities; **HB 2022 (Denlinger)** Amends the Third Class County Assessment Board Law further providing for appeals by municipalities; **HB 2023 (Gergely)** Amends The General County Assessment Law further providing for appeals by municipalities; **SB 916 (Erickson)** Amends the Second Class County Code, further providing for required financial reporting; and making editorial changes.

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House Agriculture and Rural Affairs will hold a meeting at 10:00 a.m. on Tues. April 27, 2010 in Room 205 Ryan Office Building to consider **HR 728 (Evans, D)** Resolution

recognizing the potential for a national fresh food financing initiative to provide an effective & economically sustainable solution to the problem of limited access to healthy foods in low-income communities; **SB 828 (Vogel, Jr.)** Amends the Public Eating and Drinking Place Law, further providing for definitions; and providing for applicability.

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House Judiciary will hold a meeting at 10:00 a.m. on Tues. April 27, 2010 in Room 60 East Wing to consider **HB 1926 (Taylor R.)** Amends Titles 18 (Crimes & Offenses) & 42 (Judiciary) further providing for failure to comply with registration of sexual offenders requirements, for registration procedures, for verification of residence & for victim notification; **HB 739 (Benningoff)** Amends Title 42 (Judiciary & Judicial Procedure) further providing for sentencing procedure for murder of the first degree; **SB 260 (Baker, L.)** Amends Title 18 (Crimes and Offenses), in minors, further providing for the offense of sexual abuse of children; **HB 2444 (Caltagirone)** Amends Title 61 (Penal & Correctional Institutions), establishing the Prison Industry Enhancement Authority; for employment of prisoners by private industry & for contracts; establishing compensation guidelines & for location.

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House Labor Relations will hold a meeting at 10:00 a.m. on Tues. April 27, 2010 in Room 39 East Wing to consider **HB 2242 (Thomas)** Amends Tax Reform Code providing for the Keystone Employment and Training Tax Credit. **HR 765** Resolution encouraging cooperation among Departments during the formation of the 2010 Subsidized Summer Youth & Adult Employment Program.

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House Appropriations will hold an Off the Floor meeting on Tues. April 27, 2010 in Room 140 Main Capitol. Agenda will be announced.

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House Transportation will hold an Off the Floor meeting on Tues. April. 27, 2010 in Room G-50, Irvis Office Building to consider **HB 2415 (Grucela)** Act designating a portion of PA 191 in Washington Township, Northampton County, as the "World War II Homefront Heroes Highway; **HB 2424 (Sturla)** Act designating a bridge to be constructed on that portion of SR 222 over the Amtrak rail lines in the City of Lancaster, Lancaster County, replacing the Lititz Pike Bridge, as the Thaddeus Stevens Bridge; **HB 2428 (Mustio)** Act designating the interchange of Business Route 60 with Thorn Run Road in Moon Township, Allegheny County, as the Robert E. Harper Interchange; **SB 1157 (Piccola)** Act designating State Route 283, from the PA Turnpike Interchange in Lower Swatara Township, Dauphin County, to State Route 30 in Manheim Township, Lancaster County, as the 283rd Field Artillery Battalion Highway; **SB 1180 (Mellow)** Act designating the Donora-Webster Bridge in Donora, Washington County, as the Lieutenant Governor Ernest P. Kline Memorial Bridge.

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House Education will hold a meeting at 9:00 a.m. on Wed. April 28, 2010 in Room 205, Ryan Office Building to consider **HB 1163 (Wagner)** Amends Public School Code providing for comprehensive sex education, parental requests, implementation and oversight and for funding.

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House Urban Affairs will hold a meeting at 9:30 a.m. on Wed. April 28, 2010 in Room G-50 Irvis Office Building to consider **HB 1322 (Wheatley)** Amends Title 42 (Judiciary and Judicial Procedure) further providing for the period of limitation in the doctrine of adverse

possession under certain circumstances; and making related repeals; **HB 2212 (Taylor, R)** Amends Mobile Home Park Rights Act further providing for short title, for definitions and for disclosure of fees; and making editorial changes.

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House Children and Youth will hold a meeting at 10:00 a.m. on Wed. April 28, 2010 in Room 39, East Wing to consider **HB 2338 (Mundy)** Act providing for requirements for children in foster care and for grievance policy and procedure.

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House Appropriations will hold an Off the Floor meeting on Wed. April 28, 2010 in Room 140 Main Capitol. Agenda will be announced.

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House Republican Policy Committee will hold a public hearing at 10:00 a.m. on Thursday, April 29, 2010 in Spring Ford Senior High School, 9th Grade Center, 400 South Lewis Road, Royersford with PSEA & PSBA on the impact of special education costs/regulations on school districts

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### **Senate Session Schedule**

May            3, 4, 5, 24, 25, 26  
June           7, 8, 9, 14, 15, 16, 21, 22, 23, 28, 29, 30

·        **The Senate** stands in recess until Monday, May 3, at 1:00 p.m. or to the call of the Chair.

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Senate State Government will hold a public hearing at 11:00 a.m. on Friday, April 30, 2010 in Penn State Beaver, Student Union Auditorium, 100 University Drive, Monaca on **SB 201 (Pippy)** Joint Resolution proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, further providing for legislative districts **SB 684 (Vogel, Jr)** Joint Resolution proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, reducing the size of the General Assembly; **SB 1160 (Argall)** Joint Resolution proposing separate and distinct amendments to the Constitution of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, in the legislature, further providing for terms of members for legislative districts.

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### **Other Articles**

04-23-2010        [Gerald Zahorchak to Step Down as PA Sec. of Education to become superintendent](#)  
                          (Press Release)

04-23-2010        [Scarnati hopeful of budget negotiations](#)  
Lt. Gov. Joe Scarnati sounded an upbeat tone in considering the state budget, but warned that good-faith negotiations will be needed to avoid some of the stalemates that have plagued spending plans of previous years. "This year we are facing fiscal challenges once again," he said. "Revenues... - [WILLIAM. SUN](#)

- 04-22-2010 [\*\*Pop those corks ...\*\*](#)  
Many of us have taken to recycling our plastic bottles, aluminum cans and newspapers with a fair amount of ease, helping to reduce our impact upon the environment in our daily lives. Now, Whole Foods Markets are helping you take it one step further, recycling an already sustainable product,... - [POST-GAZ.](#)
- 04-22-2010 [\*\*Rendell calls again for merit selection of judges\*\*](#)  
By Amy Worden Inquirer Harrisburg Bureau HARRISBURG - Gov. Rendell on Wednesday renewed his call to change the way state judges are chosen in Pennsylvania, citing the "explosion" of campaign spending and growing number of judicial scandals. Rendell said the election of judges had led to the influence of big money... - [INQUIRER](#)
- 04-22-2010 [\*\*Lawmaker introduces legislation to privatize Pennsylvania liquor stores\*\*](#)  
With Pennsylvania facing financial problems, Rep. Mike Turzai, R-Allegheny, is reviving the idea of privatizing off the state's liquor store system. "Government should not be in the business of selling alcohol," Turzai said. He anticipates auctioning off 100 wholesale licenses and 750 retail... - [PATRIOT](#)
- 04-22-2010 [\*\*New federal rule on lead paint requires contractors to take extra steps\*\*](#)  
WASHINGTON — Contractors across the country must take additional precautions when renovating houses where children could be exposed to lead dust from old paint, a safety measure that could add thousands of dollars to projects just as the remodeling industry tries to recover from the... - [AP](#)
- 04-21-2010 [\*\*Reap Tax Benefits While Saving for your Child's Education: Invest in PA 529 Plan\*\*](#)  
(Press Release)
- 04-21-2010 [\*\*Groups call for Corbett to step down as attorney general while campaigning\*\*](#)  
By Tom Barnes, Post-Gazette Harrisburg Bureau HARRISBURG - State Attorney General Tom Corbett's office quickly rejected a call from citizens groups and unions Tuesday for Mr. Corbett to step down as the state's chief prosecutor while he runs for governor. A spokesman for Mr. Corbett, who polls show is the leading Republican... - [POST-GAZ.](#)

04-20-2010

**[Governor: Sales tax shift would help close deficit](#)**

By Erin Thompson The Daily Item Gov. Ed Rendell told business leaders Monday he would like to revive a plan to decrease the sales tax while eliminating many exemptions to the tax to generate the revenue needed to close a budget deficit that state Sen. Jake Corman recently suggested could hit \$1 billion.... - [DAILY ITEM](#)

04-20-2010

**[Rendell wants tax changes for reserve fund](#)**

Gov. Ed Rendell, who is working on his last state budget before his second and final term ends in January, is pushing for five tax increases and revisions he says will leave a reserve fund for the next administration. "We need a reserve because there's an economic tsunami coming towards the... - [HAZLE. STANDARD](#)

04-20-2010

**[Special session on state transportation funding expected May 4](#)**

By Tom Barnes, Pittsburgh Post-Gazette HARRISBURG -- Gov. Ed Rendell is expected to call the Legislature into a special session on transportation starting May 4, when he will address the assembly on the need to find additional money to improve ailing roads and... - [POST-GAZ.](#)

04-19-2010

**[Rep. Daley expedites legislation to support businesses & create jobs](#)**

(Press Release)

04-19-2010

**[Rep. Saylor: HRPC to Hold Hearings on Transportation Infrastructure Proposals](#)**

(Press Release)