



## A NATION GRIEVES

FLAGS CIRCLING THE WASHINGTON MONUMENT FLY AT HALF-STAFF AFTER THE DEADLY SHOOTING OF CHILDREN IN A MINNEAPOLIS CATHOLIC CHURCH, WHERE PRAYERS ENDED IN GUNFIRE. **C1, 4**

### ATLANTA

## Prescription for upheaval at the CDC



The White House’s ouster of Susan Monarez, lower left, as director of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention after less than a month on the job spurred an outpouring of support for her Thursday at agency headquarters in Atlanta as well as for other exiting CDC leaders, including, top left, Dr. Daniel Jernigan, leader of its work on emerging infectious diseases, left; Dr. Debra Houry, the agency’s deputy director, and Dr. Demetre Daskalakis, a top vaccine official. Monarez apparently clashed with Health Secretary Robert F. Kennedy Jr. over changes to vaccine policy. Jim O’Neill, a top adviser to Kennedy, was picked as interim CDC director. He is seen in June, bottom right, being sworn in as Health and Human Services deputy secretary by Kennedy. See C1. *Photos by Ben Gray, AP, top; Kayla Bartkowski, Getty Images (Monarez); Amy Rossetti, Department of HHS*

### SOUTH JERSEY

## Veterinary students get in-state place to pursue sheepskin

*First such Jersey school opens at Rowan, even as nation faces severe vet shortage.*

**Liz Rosenberg** *For Times of Trenton*

Until this week, anyone from New Jersey who wanted to become a veterinarian had to train for their dream in another state.

That changed Thursday when New Jersey officially launched its first school of veterinary medicine.

A cohort of 75 students, more than half of whom are from New Jersey, will make up the inaugural class of the Shreiber School of Veterinary Medicine at Rowan University in Gloucester County.

The first class, which hails from 16 states, was to receive stethoscopes from the school’s dean, Mathew Edson, in a celebration of the school’s opening at Rowan on Thursday.

The establishment of the Shreiber School addresses a long-standing issue. Until now, most New Jersey residents had to pay thousands more for out-of-state veterinary schools to earn a Doctor of Veterinary Medicine.

The new vet program at Rowan, a public research university, will cost first-year, in-state students \$37,500 a year. Out-of-state students will pay \$58,500 a year.

The university estimates room, board, books and other fees to add an additional \$28,497 per year. Financial aid is available



**Shreiber School of Veterinary Medicine at Rowan University is welcoming its first class this week.** *Rowan University*

for qualified students.

“For too long, New Jersey residents have had to compete for limited out-of-state seats and pay much more expensive out-of-state tuition rates in order to attend veterinary school,” Edson said in an interview with Rutgers’ agricultural school.

“Student debt and a shortage of veterinary staff are both major issues in our profession right now,” Edson said.

The school’s creation was driven by a nationwide shortage of vets. The Association of American Veterinary Medical Colleges predicts there will be a shortage of 15,000 veterinarians nationwide by next year, the school said.

In 2021, the New Jersey Legislature approved \$75 million in funding to construct the veterinary school’s primary academic and clinical 100,000-square-foot facility, in Harrison Township on Rowan University’s west campus, 18 miles southeast of Philadelphia.

Gerald B. Shreiber, the school’s namesake, donated \$30 million to the institution to support scholarships for students.

The American Veterinary Medical Association’s Council on Education issued a Letter of Reasonable Assurance to the school in October.

According to the association, the letter “indicates that the Shreiber veterinary school may gain accreditation in the future if the program completes the plans it presented.”

When the new facilities officially open in October, the surrounding communities will be able to bring their pets to receive a range of care from the school’s faculty, staff and students.

Students working in the pet care facilities will be able to rotate through specialty fields like dentistry, ophthalmology, imaging, surgery, emergency, primary and critical care, while working with large, small and exotic animals.

The school said it has established relationships with more than 60 outside partners, including animal shelters.

School officials said the facility fills a much needed vet care gap in South Jersey “which can make a life-or-death difference.”

The future veterinarians start the four-year program next week.

### NEW YORK

## Penn Station upgrade to get on track by 2027, feds say

*White House unveils plan to get to bottom of NYC hub’s woes, at underground level.*

**Larry Higgs** *For Times of Trenton*

Plans by the Trump administration to transform New York’s Penn Station to a world-class facility will finally address underground problems on that track level that currently make commuters miserable.

Construction is expected to start in 2027 on a project outlined Wednesday by U.S. Transportation Secretary Sean Duffy and Amtrak special adviser Andy Byford.

It also would shelve controversial and expensive plans to build an underground Penn Station annex and focus on more efficient use of the existing 21 tracks and “through running” trains.

Through running, a concept championed by some transit advocates, makes more efficient use to track and platform space by having trains pick up or drop off passengers and continue on instead of parking at platforms.

“We’re looking optimistically at what’s the best way forward,” Duffy said at a news conference after riding Amtrak’s new NextGen Acela train to New York. “It won’t be your grandkids who will enjoy it; you will enjoy this great project. This won’t be a 20- to 30-year project.”

Penn Station New York is the busiest train station in the Western Hemisphere, used by 300 million people annually who ride Amtrak, NJ Transit, Long Island Rail Road and Metro North trains.

Penn Station has been derided

**SEE NEW YORK, A7**

### ECONOMY

## N.J. shed jobs in second quarter, survey finds

*Slower consumer spending, opioid lawsuits seen contributing to layoffs.*

**Tim Henderson** *Stateline*

Virginia and New Jersey may be among the states most affected by the hiring slowdown that enraged President Donald Trump when it appeared in an Aug. 1 jobs report showing the United States had 258,000 fewer jobs than initially reported in May and June.

Such revisions to earlier reports are based on more up-to-date payroll data and are routine. But the scale in this case was shocking — showing the smallest monthly job gains since pandemic-era December 2020 and the largest jobs revision, outside recessions, since 1968.

In response, Trump declared the numbers were wrong, fired the Bureau of Labor Statistics chief, and offered as a replacement E.J. Antoni, a loyalist who has proposed suspending the jobs report. Trump falsely said in a Truth Social post that the revised jobs numbers were “RIGGED in order to make the Republicans, and ME, look bad.”

Beyond those attention-grabbing actions, though, the numbers demonstrate the real effects of Trump’s work slashing the federal government.

A Stateline analysis of the data shows how several states, especially Virginia and

**SEE ECONOMY, A8**