



Sirianni hints at player that forced offensive change

SPORTS, 1B

BUCKS COUNTY Courier Times

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Feds promise \$600M for PA Turnpike bridge



The Delaware River Bridge rises over several Lower Bucks neighborhoods, such as this one along North Radcliffe Street in Bristol Township. The Pennsylvania Turnpike Commission has not said which neighborhoods will be affected if a second span is built. JD MULLANE/BUCKS COUNTY COURIER TIMES

JD Mullane
Bucks County Courier Times
USA TODAY NETWORK

The federal government has promised \$600 million toward replacing the old, cracked and worn Pennsylvania Turnpike Bridge that links Pennsylvania to New Jersey.

“The funding will advance ... replacing the existing 1956 Delaware River Bridge, a critical crossing connecting

Bucks County, Pennsylvania to Burlington County, New Jersey,” said U.S. Sen. Dave McCormick, R-Pa.

McCormick and U.S. Sen. John Fetterman, D-Pa., delivered a joint announcement on March 28.

“This \$600 million investment is one of the most consequential infrastructure commitments in Pennsylvania’s history, and we are proud to have fought to secure this funding by writing directly to Transportation Secretary Duffy to

make the case for why the Delaware River Bridge deserves federal investment,” the senators wrote.

“The Delaware River Bridge is not just a Pennsylvania asset; it is a backbone of our national freight and passenger transportation network. This funding will make it safer and more resilient for the commuters, families, and businesses that depend on it every single day.”

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QUAKERTOWN

Chief warns officers of ‘evil sect’ following walkout

Jess Rohan
Bucks County Courier Times
USA TODAY NETWORK

Emails from Quakertown Community School District, the police department, and the borough council reveal more of what town leaders were saying and doing before and after the student walkout that led to a police confrontation and student arrests.

The Feb. 20 high school walkout to protest immigration control policies ignited outrage after viral videos showed about a dozen students fighting with borough police Chief Scott McElree, who charged into the crowd dressed in plainclothes and put one student in a chokehold during the melee. Several students were arrested and charged, and McElree remains out on workers’ compensation after reportedly being injured in the clash.

Emails to and from the police chief, obtained through a Right to Know request, in the days after the walkout mirror the division and anger that has permeated among residents. In some, the chief expresses an idea shared by many people who approved of his actions: that the chief’s supporters are local, and his critics are outsiders.

The police chief has not returned multiple requests for comment since the walkout.

Quakertown chief defends use of force after walkout

On the Monday after the walkout, McElree emailed his officers and defended the use of force, noting that the borough had requested that the district attorney investigate the police handling of the walkout. “I have no

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What a Pennsylvania sales tax holiday could cover

Mark Walters
USA TODAY NETWORK

Bitcoin, Halloween candy, pet food and exercise equipment could all get a sales tax holiday if Pennsylvania lawmakers can, for the first time in the state’s history, succeed in passing legislation to pull it off.

Pennsylvania has never had a time-stamped sales tax break, where companies — largely retailers — would not have sales and use taxes on specific items. The state does already have permanent, product-based exemptions for essential items like food, clothing and medication.

House Republicans rolled out the tax

holiday proposals as a package through a series of memos. Official legislation has not been introduced.

Pennsylvania’s 6% sales and use tax goes to the state’s general fund to support basic services like public safety, education and infrastructure. It brought in \$14.7 billion in the last fiscal year, according to the state’s Department of

Revenue.

“The department has not been asked to analyze any of the recent proposals for Sales & Use Tax holidays,” Brandi DeAngelo, deputy communications director for the revenue department, wrote in an email response to questions

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