



How 6 Americans battle rising costs in the U.S.

WEEKEND EXCLUSIVE, 1D

PUBLIC OPINION

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CASD STARTS SCHOOL

Cellphone ban in place, bus routes still coming

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USA TODAY NETWORK – PENNSYLVANIA

Chambersburg Area School District officials addressed issues affecting the new school year at the Aug. 18 school board meeting, which took place on the eve of the first day of the 2026-27 school year.

The “hot topic” this year is the new cellphone ban at the high schools, Assistant Superintendent Kurt Widmann said. Chambersburg Area Senior High

School and Career Magnet School have a “bell to bell” ban, requiring students to keep their phones in their lockers during the entire school day, including lunch periods.

“Our admin team at both CMS and CASHS have done a great job planning for this, meeting with teachers what’s it gonna look like,” Widmann said.

The school board approved the ban earlier this year through an update to the district’s cellphone policy. The board saw it as a way to get ahead of an expected statewide mandate.

The state Senate and House both passed bills on bell-to-bell cellphone bans earlier this year. Gov. Josh Shapiro has expressed support for the bill.

Hundreds of students need bus routes

Some students did not have a spot on a district bus for the first day of school, but staff are working to get the rest assigned to a route, CFO Tammy Stouffer told the school board.

“As of today (Aug. 18) we have ap-

proximately 700 students who remain unassigned to a bus for either the a.m. or p.m. or both,” she said.

The vast majority of those students had changes made to their pickup or dropoff addresses since the start of August, Stouffer added.

“For students who are still in need of transportation, there are daily updates that are going out,” she said, adding the updates will continue until every child has a route.

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Scott Young, president of Volvo Construction Equipment in North America, speaks about localizing production and suppliers at the facility in Shippensburg on Aug. 19. PHOTOS BY AMBER SOUTH/PUBLIC OPINION

Volvo showcases result of \$40M investment

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Volvo Construction Equipment’s move to upscale production at its Shippensburg plant to cover half of the machine supply in North America will impact the Cumberland Valley as it depends on local suppliers to get the job done.

Last year the company announced it was investing \$40 million to increase production and localize machine assembly in Franklin County. On Aug. 19, Volvo officials celebrated with regional and state leaders as the company rolled out its first American-built excavators and wheel loaders.

Volvo CE will make 11 models of the vital construction equipment in Shippensburg, shortening lead time to customers by six weeks.

“What you see today is different. This is not a commitment on paper, it’s equipment rolling off the production



U.S. Rep. John Joyce speaks while surrounded by workers.

Flock cameras stir concerns across U.S.

N’dea Yancey-Bragg
USA TODAY

License plate readers have been shot at in Tennessee, hit with a truck in California, beaten with a baseball bat in Virginia, cut down with a saw in Texas and splattered with paint in New York. And they’ve been regularly blocked by a protester in Florida.

There also has been bipartisan criticism of a coast-to-coast network of cameras that continues trying to track the movements of vehicles.

People are raising privacy concerns as well as others about misuse, mistakes and road safety in city council meetings, lawsuits and a planned national week of action in late August.

Chad Marlow, senior policy counsel at the American Civil Liberties Union who focuses on privacy, surveillance and technology issues, said the technology triggers concerns about government overreach on the right and worries about who is being targeted on the left.

“For people in the center or the non-politically engaged are even like, ‘I don’t want to be tracked everywhere I go,’” he said. “And so there’s different reasons, but everyone is arriving at the same position, which is mass government surveillance in this country has gotten completely out of control and needs to be reined in immediately.”

Though multiple companies sell the devices – sometimes called automated license plate readers – much of the public ire has been directed at Flock Safety, which boasts a network of more than 120,000 cameras across 49 states that capture a vehicle’s license plate, make, model and color.

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Flock cameras like this one on a utility pole in Pawtucket, Rhode Island, collect vehicles’ license plate, make, model and color, information that is searchable by law enforcement agencies. PAUL EDWARD PARKER/PROVIDENCE JOURNAL FILE

