

Geisinger's more than 1,000 peer mentors made a difference in 2025/B1



Applause!: Valley trio Mexico Road to release 2nd album/D1

The Daily Item

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Breezy this morning 43/28 Weather, B6

Wednesday, December 24, 2025

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21ST CENTURY CLASSROOMS

Mount Carmel students learn news firsthand



Photo provided

Mount Carmel Area students Tessa Fourspring and Jonah Lazicki prepare for a news broadcast inside the school's television studio, in Mount Carmel.

Class teaches kids to write, produce broadcasts

Editor's Note: While high school students still grind away at the three Rs during a school day, there are many non-traditional classes being offered. Today, The Daily Item continues a series on unique opportunities available to Valley students in 21st Century Classrooms, including foods of the world, adulting and health careers.

By Francis Scarcella
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MOUNT CARMEL — Mount Carmel Area students have been making news since 1976.

The news station inside the

Mount Carmel High School provides students and community members with the news of the day and also offers students an opportunity in journalism — finding stories to write about, produce and discuss on air.

Founded by George McFee, the class was carried on by his son David, and now by Steven Saukaitis as he enters his third year as director.

There are 17 students enrolled in the TV Studio side of the Communications Media program this year.

Students learn about photography and videography, audio and video editing, graphic design, live event

production and stagecraft.

"I firmly believe WK-MCTV is a huge asset to the district — not many schools have a program as sophisticated as ours or invest in the program the way Mount Carmel has," Saukaitis said. "We cover a wide range of events in the community and at the school, and provide all of the content for free on your Facebook, YouTube and rebroadcasts on Wednesday evenings on SECV channel 20.2."

Saukaitis said students also enjoy working in the news.

"Absolutely. Every student that is enrolled in the pro-

gram is excited to be a part of it and have the opportunity to create awesome content," he said.

WKMCTV was founded in 1968 through the vision of McGee, a Mount Carmel Area High School art teacher. Partnering with local cable company owner and Mount Carmel businessman Steve Jepko, McFee launched the original station — WJPM — as a collaboration between high school students and cable company employees, district officials said.

Together, they built the first studio above the cable

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Union County planning AI workshops for employees

IT director urges commissioners to be proactive with training

By Justin Strawser
jstrawser@dailyitem.com

LEWISBURG — Union County will host workshops about the proper use of artificial intelligence for employees beginning in 2026.

Joe Livoti, the director of IT and Geospatial Information Services, proposed the workshops to the county commissioners at Tuesday's public work session. The quarterly workshops would not be mandatory.

"We need to be ahead of it," Livoti said. "This is not putting anything into policy. This is teaching best practices. What it is, what it isn't. Making sure people don't use it improperly to make

decisions. It's not something that's going away. It's something we in the government need to be proactive about, not reactive."

Livoti said he and other employees are already using AI for policy writing, brainstorming, writing code and other writing tasks.

Livoti said part of the workshops would be discussing best practices. This includes not sending personal and sensitive information, such as Social Security numbers or salary totals tied to names.

"If you wouldn't send it in an email, don't put it in AI," Livoti said.

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Sen. McCormick sponsors measure to address AI energy needs

The Daily Item

U.S. Sen. David McCormick, a Pennsylvania Republican, has introduced bipartisan legislation aimed at addressing rising energy needs and heat generation linked to the continued emergence of data centers.

The Liquid Cooling for AI Act of 2025 is sponsored by McCormick and fellow Republican Ted Budd, of North Carolina, along with Democratic senators Christopher Coons, of Delaware, and California's

INSIDE

Public comments sought on air quality plan for Shamokin Dam power plant proposed to feed AI data centers/B1

Adam Schiff.

The proposed legislation would require the comptroller general of the United States to manage the use of liquid

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Supreme Court upholds block on National Guard in Chicago

Trump sought to send troops as part of immigration crackdown

By Mark Sherman
The Associated Press

The Supreme Court on Tuesday refused to allow the Trump administration to deploy National Guard troops in the Chicago area to support its immigration crackdown.

The justices declined the Republican administration's emergency request to overturn a ruling by U.S. District Judge April Perry that had blocked the deployment of troops. An



Watch video at dailyitem.com

appeals court also had refused to step in. The Supreme Court took more than two months to act.

Three justices, Samuel Alito, Clarence Thomas and Neil Gorsuch, publicly dissented.

The high court order is not a final ruling but it could affect other lawsuits challenging President Donald Trump's at-

tempts to deploy the military in other Democratic-led cities.

The outcome is a Supreme Court setback for Trump, who had won repeated victories in emergency appeals since he took office again in January. The conservative-dominated court has allowed Trump to ban transgender people from the military, claw back billions of dollars of congressionally approved federal spending, move aggressively against immigrants and fire the Senate-confirmed leaders of independent federal agencies.

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Explosion at nursing home kills at least 2, Shapiro says

By Tassanee Vejpongsa, Mark Scolforo, Marc Levy
The Associated Press

BRISTOL — A thunderous explosion Tuesday at a nursing home just outside Philadelphia killed at least two people, collapsed part of the building, sent fire shooting out and left people trapped inside, authorities said.

Pennsylvania Gov. Josh Shapiro said in a news conference several hours after the explosion that at least two had been killed after emergency responders braved the flames, a heavy odor

See HOME, Page A2



WPVI-TV/6ABC via The Associated Press

First responders are on the scene of a fire after an explosion at a nursing home in Bristol Township on Tuesday.

NO PAPER

Due to the holiday, there will be no newspaper or e-edition on Thursday, Christmas Day. Breaking news updates will be posted at dailyitem.com

REMEMBRANCES A7

CHIRON, Holly E. (Hoover), 55, Seattle, Wash.
HARTMAN, Ronald G., 83, Lewisburg

KEISTER, Gary L., 83, Mifflinburg
REIBSOME, Rose M., 82, Milton

STOCKS B6

Tuesday, Dec. 23, 2025	
Dow Jones industrials	79.73 48,442.41
Nasdaq composite	133.02 23,561.84
Standard & Poor's 500	31.30 6,909.79

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PUBLIC NOTICES

Notices inside include:
■ East Buffalo Twp. to hold zoning hearing/C7
■ Point Twp. Sewer Authority to meet/C7
■ And on our website: marketplace.dailyitem.com



\$2.50