

THE MORNING CALL

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LEHIGH VALLEY WEATHER

Almanacs split on winter predictions

The Old Farmers' Almanac anticipates snow and cold this winter; the Farmers' Almanac forecasts something more complicated

By Chris Dornblaser | THE MORNING CALL

Above: Snow falls Sunday, Feb. 22, late in the evening in Allentown. A winter storm was expected to drop up to a foot of snow on the region, but only about 5 inches accumulated at Lehigh Valley International Airport.

RICH ROLEN/SPECIAL TO THE MORNING CALL

The Old Farmers' Almanac and the Farmers' Almanac have different outlooks for the Lehigh Valley this winter.

The Maine-based Farmers' Almanac claims the Northeast will have near-normal precipitation, with rain events more likely than extended snow periods. Temperatures also will be variable, the publication claimed.

The New Hampshire-based Old Farmers' Almanac claims most of the Lehigh Valley will have below-average temperatures and above-normal snowfall. The eastern portion of the region, however, could have above-normal temperatures and below-normal snowfall.

Both publications have been derided by meteorologists. The National Oceanic Atmospheric Administration's Climate Prediction Center said in its winter outlook for December, January and February that temperatures are leaning above normal, and that precipitation will be likely above normal.

FARMERS' ALMANAC: A COMPLICATED WINTER

The Farmers' Almanac, which claims to be 80%-85% accurate in its predictions, bases its forecasts on a mathematical and astronomical formula. In its prediction for the upcoming winter, the publication claimed the Northeast will

See **ALMANAC** on Page A3

Campaigns in high gear over Labor Day

Holiday marks start of crucial stretch for midterm candidates

By Patrick Whittle
ASSOCIATED PRESS

PORTLAND, Maine — Troy Jackson was a longtime labor activist and logger before he unexpectedly became the Democratic nominee for U.S. Senate in Maine.

On Monday, he returned to a union hall to tell a packed crowd that workers need to go to the polls this fall — to raise the minimum wage, expand family medical leave and show support for one another.

“Labor Day has never been just another holiday,” Jackson told several hundred union members at a Southern Maine Labor Council event Monday morning in Portland. “Today, here with the people I’ve fought alongside for years, I want to make a pledge about exactly what I’m going to do in the United States Senate.”

Jackson, who became the nominee in a special convention in July, is trying to whip up support in a short period of time as he attempts to unseat longtime Republican Sen. Susan Collins in a race Democrats view as crucial to winning control of the Senate.

He was among the candidates in key November races who spent Labor Day weekend stumping at festivals, union halls and parades as the midterms enter the final

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‘Pencil tower’ back before Planning Commission

If built, the Peregrine Tower would become Lehigh Valley’s tallest building

By Evan Jones
THE MORNING CALL

Plans for a proposed 37-story “pencil tower” in Allentown — which have been in the works for years — could be finalized this week.

After receiving a variance from the Allentown Zoning Hearing Board in July, the developer is scheduled to appear Tuesday before the city’s planning commission.

The agenda for the meeting, which is scheduled for 12:15 p.m. in City Council chambers, includes the Peregrine Tower, the name of the project at 90 S. Ninth St. that has been through several delays since it was proposed in 2013.

Umran Global Investment LLC is seeking approval for a preliminary/final plan.

If built, the 420-foot-tall Peregrine Tower would become the Lehigh Valley’s tallest building, eclipsing the nearby PPL Building, which is just shy of 322 feet high. The mixed-use building would have 250,140 square feet of space with 208 apartments. Umran’s original plan to have a restaurant on the 37th floor was changed; it would have apartments instead. The first through fifth floors would have retail and office space.

See **TOWER** on Page A3

SPOTLIGHT PA

Prediction markets have free rein in Pa.

Critics fear lack of specific limits creates potential for corruption

By Jaxon White
SPOTLIGHT PA

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HARRISBURG — Who will win Pennsylvania’s race for governor? How many data centers will be proposed here? Which state laws will be enacted this year?

That’s just a sample of the political questions that prediction market platforms, like Kalshi and Polymarket, allow people to bet on.

These platforms, which allow people to wager on the outcomes of a wide range

See **PREDICTION** on Page A2



An ad for the prediction market app Kalshi is displayed on a mobile phone April 16 in Chicago. ERIN HOOLEY/AP FILE



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