

Pittsburgh Post-Gazette

\$4.00 239 YEARS OF SERVICE MONDAY, MAY 11, 2026 VOL. 99, NO. 283, 5/11/26 FINAL

Election ruling spurs questions

Counties evaluate state justices' decision giving public access to granular vote data

By Carter Walker
Votebeat

SPOTLIGHT PA

In a rare unanimous decision last month, the Pennsylvania Supreme Court ruled that the public should have access to super-granular election results data, making it easier for researchers to analyze electoral patterns and for

those concerned about voter fraud to inspect the results.

But it's unclear how many counties will be able to release the data due to unanswered technological questions and concern about keeping ballots secret in

some jurisdictions.

The data, known as a cast vote record or CVR, is essentially a log of each ballot cast in an election and what candidates it voted for. It does not reveal the names of the voters who cast those ballots (election officials don't even keep that data), but it does include the precinct where the vote was cast.

"Disclosure of CVRs allows the public to 'check the math' of [Lycoming County] Voter Services to ensure the number of reported votes match the number of

recorded votes," Justice Daniel McCaffery wrote for the majority. "Such disclosure promotes fair, honest, and transparent elections, which strikes to the heart of 'trust but verify.'"

In October 2021, conservative activist Heather Honey, who is now the Trump administration's deputy assistant secretary of homeland security for election integrity, requested Lycoming County's cast vote record for the

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WAR IN THE MIDEAST

IRANIANS DISMISS U.S. PEACE PROPOSAL

Trump: Tehran response is 'totally unacceptable'

By Jon Gambrell and Samy Magdy
Associated Press

DUBAI, United Arab Emirates — Iran sent its response to the latest U.S. proposal to end the Iran war via Pakistani mediators on Sunday, but President Donald Trump quickly rejected it in a social media post as "TOTALLY UNACCEPTABLE!" — the latest setback to efforts to resolve the standoff in the Persian Gulf that has throttled shipping and sent energy prices soaring.

Iranian state television reported that Tehran rejected the U.S. proposal as amounting to surrender, insisting instead on "war reparations by the U.S., full Iranian sovereignty over the Strait of Hormuz, an end to sanctions and the release of seized Iranian assets."

Washington's latest proposal addressed a deal to end the war, reopen the strait and roll back Iran's nuclear program.

Trump's rejection of the Iranian response included no details. In an earlier post, he accused Tehran of "playing games" with the United States for nearly 50 years, adding: "They will be laughing no longer!"

Trump is giving diplomacy "every chance we possibly can before going back to hostilities," the U.S. ambassador to the United Nations, Mike Waltz, told ABC earlier.

Iran's new supreme leader, Mojtaba Khamenei, who has not been seen or heard publicly since the war began, "issued new and decisive directives for the continuation of operations and the powerful confrontation with the enemies" while meeting with the head of the joint military command, the state broadcaster reported, with no details.

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Justin Guido/For the Post-Gazette

Carnegie Mellon University graduate Nathan Chenakaicao takes a selfie with Jensen Huang, co-founder and CEO of Nvidia, during the university's commencement ceremony on Sunday at Gesling Stadium.

NO TIME FOR FEAR

AI requires wise innovation, Nvidia co-founder tells CMU grads

By Chloe Jad
Pittsburgh Post-Gazette

Before he was the CEO of the most valuable company in the world, Jensen Huang delivered newspapers early in the morning. Then he was a dishwasher at a Denny's. "That was my view of America — not easy, but full of opportunities. Not a guarantee, but a chance," Huang told Carnegie Mellon University's 2026 graduating class on Sunday. During the ceremony, CMU conferred more than 5,800 undergraduate and graduate degrees.

Huang co-founded the company in 1993. Nvidia leads the stock market as the first

company in history to pass the threshold of \$5 trillion in value, surpassing Apple and Microsoft to become the most valuable company in the world in 2025.

Nvidia chips are powering much of artificial intelligence computation and image generation across the country.

The Santa Clara, Calif.-based company works closely with Pittsburgh-area companies, such as simulation firm Ansys and sensor manufacturer Coherent.

Before he delivered his keynote address before an estimated crowd of more than 10,000, including students, their families and faculty members, in CMU's Gesling Stadium, Huang received an honorary degree of doctor of science and technology.

The audience's energy upon hearing his name and voice boom across the field was palpable — there was audible awe. CMU's students knew what it meant to have Huang speak at their commencement. After all, CMU researchers are credited with inventing the foundations of AI.

And Huang had much to say on the subject.

But first, he made the graduates stand, turn and thank their parents, wishing their moms a "Happy Mother's Day."

"To see you graduate from one of the world's great institutions, this is her moment too. My mom and dad are deeply

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WAR IN UKRAINE

Strikes continue despite ceasefire

The Associated Press

Russia and Ukraine swapped accusations of breaking a U.S.-brokered ceasefire on Sunday, with both sides claiming to have suffered casualties in drone and artillery strikes over the previous 24 hours.

Ukraine's President Volodymyr Zelenskyy said that Russia was neither observing the truce nor "even particularly trying to," adding there had been no calm in front-line areas despite a lull in large-scale attacks and pledged that Ukraine would retaliate to any aggression shown by Moscow.

"Yesterday and today, Ukraine refrained from long-range retaliatory actions in response to the absence of large-scale Russian attacks," Zelenskyy said in evening statement, stressing Ukraine's increasing ability to hit targets far inside Russia.

"We will continue to respond in the same mirrorlike manner, and if the Russians decide to return to full-scale warfare, our response will be immediate and significant," he said.

Ivan Fedorov, head of Ukraine's southeastern Zaporizhzhia region, said one

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Travelers leave ship

Fly home, face quarantine after virus ordeal

By Iain Sullivan
and Suman Naishadham
Associated Press

TENERIFE, Canary Islands — Passengers evacuated from the hantavirus-hit cruise ship began flying home Sunday aboard military and government planes after the vessel anchored in the Canary Islands, where travelers were escorted to shore by personnel in full-body protective gear and breathing masks.

Spanish passengers were the first to leave the MV Hondius following its arrival in Tenerife, the largest is-

land in the Spanish archipelago off the West African coast. They were flown to Madrid and taken to a military hospital. Hours later, a plane that evacuated French passengers landed in Paris, where it was met by emergency vehicles.

One of the five French passengers developed symptoms on the flight, French Prime Minister Sebastien Lecornu said in a statement, and all were put into strict isolation with plans to be tested.

Earlier, officials from the Spanish

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Manu Fernandez/Associated Press

Passengers disembark on Sunday from the hantavirus-stricken cruise ship MV Hondius at the port of Granadilla in Tenerife in Spain's Canary Islands.



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