

SHOT CLOCK  
OFFICIALLY  
COMING TO  
PA. HS HOOPS  
SPORTS | PAGE B1



WHY DOING  
GOOD ALSO  
MAKES US  
FEEL GREAT  
HEALTH | PAGE B5

FIND THE  
LATEST NEWS

www.republicanherald.com

Breaking News  
Features  
Sports

# REPUBLICAN HERALD

\$3.00 | FRIDAY, DECEMBER 5, 2025 | REPUBLICANHERALD.COM

## U.S. REP. MEUSER TO HOLD A TOWN HALL



Rep. Dan Meuser, R-Pa., waves on Nov. 3, 2024, during a campaign rally for President Donald Trump, then the Republican nominee in the 2024 Presidential Election, in Lititz, Pa. **MATT ROURKE/ASSOCIATED PRESS**

Initially planned as invite-only event, Meuser later allowed the public to RSVP

By **Olivia Schlinkman**  
OSCHLINKMAN@REPUBLICANHERALD.COM

Select constituents were notified by email on Tuesday and Wednesday that U.S. Representative Dan Meuser (R-9) will hold an in-person constituent forum on Friday at 11:30 a.m. The forum was originally advertised as a private event, to which only constituents who received an email invitation could attend.

By noon on Thursday, the representative's office had retracted this specification, opening it up to the public by publishing the RSVP link on social media.

Meuser's office did not provide a reason for the switch.

### CHANGING PLANS

The original email invitation earlier this week came from Courtney Trigg, Meuser's Director of Operations, and specified that this was not a public invite.

The email stated that IDs would be checked at the door on Friday to confirm registration and that the event's location would only be sent to those who registered via the link provided in Trigg's email.

Michael Schroeder, one of Meuser's Lebanon County constituents, received an email invitation to the forum, which

included a link to RSVP, around 8:30 a.m. Wednesday morning — a little over 48 hours before the event.

Schroeder said Wednesday he knows of two other people who received the email.

The representative's office did not initially spread word of the event on social media. On Wednesday, Meuser's office said that forum invites were sent to constituents who have previously expressed interest in such an event to the office.

While the forum has since been adjusted to include the greater public rather than strictly invitees, media will

See **RSVP** on Page A10



Rachel Wallace talks about her decision to run for Congress during the Eleanor Roosevelt Dinner hosted by the Schuylkill County Democratic Women's League on Sept. 30 in Pottsville. **MATTHEW PERSCHALL/MULTIMEDIA EDITOR**

## City native vying for U.S. House seat announces counter-forum to Meuser's event

By **Olivia Schlinkman**  
OSCHLINKMAN@REPUBLICANHERALD.COM

Rachel Wallace, the Pottsville native campaigning as a Democrat against Republican incumbent Dan Meuser to represent Pennsylvania's 9th Congressional District in the U.S. House, will hold a public town hall on Friday in response to a constituent forum being held by Meuser the same day that was originally by invite-only.

Wallace announced her event around 4 p.m. on Wednesday, just a few hours after word began to spread of select District 9 constituents receiving email invitations to a private, in-person forum Meuser has planned for 11:30 a.m. on Friday.

As of noon on Thursday, the representative's office has retracted this specification, opening it up to the public by publishing the RSVP link on Facebook.

Wallace's town hall will take place on the second floor of Roma Pizzeria on Market Street in Pottsville at noon. She says her event will be an open discussion about healthcare, affordability and other issues concerning local constituents.

Those interested in attending Wallace's town hall may RSVP my emailing info@wallaceforcongress.com.

Constituents who received Meuser's email invite earlier this week were told that it was not a public invite. The representative's office did not initially share details about the forum on social media and the event was originally closed to the press.

Meuser's email invite also stated that the event's location would only be disclosed to those who registered via the link provided in the invite and that IDs would be checked at the door to confirm registration.

"If you want to represent people in Congress, it helps to actually talk to them," Wallace said in a press release Wednesday. "If Dan Meuser doesn't want to hear from his constituents, then I'm happy to. I welcome Republicans, Democrats, and Independents to come and share their concerns."

Meuser was first elected to represent District 9 in the U.S. House in 2019 and is up for reelection in November 2026. Currently, he faces no Republican challengers.

See **OFFICE** on Page A10

## March for Mumia arrives in Schuylkill

Event highlights alleged medical neglect by journalist who's serving a life sentence

By **Hyun Soo Lee**  
HLEE@REPUBLICANHERALD.COM

The March for Mumia, a 103-mile trek that aims to raise awareness for medical care in prisons, is set to arrive in Schuylkill County this weekend before ending at the state prison in Mahanoy Twp. on Tuesday.

Named for the journalist Mumia Abu-Jamal, who is serving a life sentence for the 1981 murder of a Philadelphia police officer, the ongoing march stepped off in Philadelphia on Nov. 28.

The marchers' goal is to shed light on the alleged medical neglect suffered by Abu-Jamal and others in the correctional system, especially the elderly.

They also demand justice for Abu-Jamal and "all political prisoners," and vow not to stop until Mumia is freed, "our elders are treated with dignity and until political imprisonment is a relic of the past."

Abu-Jamal, now 71, has been serving a life sentence in prison without parole since his 1981 conviction for the murder of Philadelphia Police Officer Daniel Faulkner. Many of his supporters have maintained his innocence and argued for his release, blaming his incarceration on "political vengeance" meant to silence his outspoken criticism of police brutality. Abu-Jamal is a co-founder of the Philadelphia chapter of the Black Panther Party.

The March for Mumia



The "March for Mumia" protest made a stop in Reading on Wednesday. **DAVID MEKEEL/READING EAGLE**

will conclude Tuesday with a press conference at State Correctional Institution-Mahanoy in Mahanoy Twp., where Abu-Jamal is incarcerated.

"It's to call out the medi-

cal neglect, medical denial and what we consider elder abuse" in the prison system, said Steven Bernhaut, one of the lead organizers.

See **MUMIA** on Page A8

## Man accused of planting pipe bombs prior to Jan. 6 is charged with explosives offenses

By **Eric Tucker**  
and **Alanna Durkin Richer**  
ASSOCIATED PRESS

WASHINGTON — The FBI on Thursday arrested a man accused of placing two pipe bombs outside the headquarters of the Republican and Democratic national parties in Washington on the eve of the U.S. Capitol attack, an abrupt breakthrough in an investigation that for years flummoxed law enforcement and spawned conspiracy theories about Jan. 6, 2021.

The arrest marks the first time investigators have publicly identified a suspect in an act that has been an

enduring mystery for nearly five years in the shadow of the violent Capitol insurrection.

The suspect was identified as Brian J. Cole Jr., 30, of Woodbridge, Virginia, but key questions remain unanswered after his arrest on explosives charges, including a possible motive and what connection if any the act had to the assault on the Capitol the following day by supporters of President Donald Trump.

Law enforcement officials used credit purchases of bomb-making materials, cellphone tower data and a

See **BOMBS** on Page A8

### SUBSCRIPTION

Call 570-628-5985 for a subscription. To place an ad, call 570-628-6054. Copyright © 2025, Republican Herald republicanherald.com

### WEATHER

**TODAY** H: 27 L: 20  
**SAT.** H: 38 L: 26  
**SUN.** H: 37 L: 23  
Full weather report A5

### INDEX

Business ..... A7  
Classified ..... B8-9  
Comics ..... B7  
Horoscopes ..... B6  
Lottery ..... A3  
Nation/World ..... A6

Obituaries ..... A2  
Opinion ..... A9  
Sports ..... B1-4, 10

