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DATA CENTERS ARCHBALD

FACE TO FACE

Project Gravity developers meet skeptical public



Residents talk with Corscale officials during the Project Gravity informational session at the Archbald Borough Building on Wednesday. SEAN MCKEAG / STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

By Frank Wilkes Lesnefsky
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ARCHBALD — Project Gravity’s first face-to-face meeting with residents opened on a contentious note Wednesday as a leader of Stop Archbald Data Centers clashed with data center developers over previous plans to purchase the Valley View Estates mobile home park bordering the proposed campus on Eynon Jermyn Road. “They’re our poorest, most vulnerable community members. They have gotten no

answer on what you guys are doing,” said Tamara Misewicz-Healey, co-founder of the data center opposition group. “Their lives have been hell for a year. Are they going to be evicted? ... They’re scared.” “Right now, we’re not doing anything,” said Corscale Data Centers Executive Vice President of Business Development Erik Draaisma as residents watched the exchange. “I’m not currently planning on buying it.” The rest of the two-hour community information session was markedly more

passive as at least 100 residents filed through the Archbald Borough Building. The third-floor gymnasium was lined with about two dozen displays depicting Project Gravity’s plans, including renderings and information on noise controls, stormwater management, utilities, tax impacts, employment opportunities and batteries. About 20 representatives from Texas-based Corscale and affiliated companies, including engineers, contractors and a

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LACKAWANNA COUNTY

County faces \$4M deficit in draft of ’27 budget

Preliminary plan does not propose tax hike that would bolster revenues

By Jeff Horvath
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SCRANTON — Lackawanna County has a “revenue problem” and faces an almost \$4 million preliminary 2027 budget deficit the county’s chief financial officer said will be hard to eliminate without raising property taxes, something two of the county’s three commissioners recently said they won’t do. Speaking in sometimes stark terms, CFO David Bulzoni highlighted budgetary and broader financial challenges Thursday upon the release of the county’s \$190 million preliminary spending plan for 2027. The draft budget remains a work in progress and already reflects considerable efforts by county officials to mitigate what was originally an almost \$9 million projected shortfall, a reduction achieved through cuts and the factoring in of several nonrecurring revenue sources. Bulzoni is confident continued work on the budget will further shrink the \$4 million gap between projected revenues and expenditures, but said closing it completely without increasing property tax revenues will be a heavy lift. Drawing down the county’s accumulated fund balance, or surplus, to eliminate the deficit would also risk jeopardizing the county’s credit rating and do nothing to address structural deficit challenges likely to worsen in future years absent action to bolster revenues, he said. The ongoing 2027 budget process follows a nearly 33% tax hike in

See **BUDGET** on Page A12

AD WATCH 8TH CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

Cognetti is keeping the conversation going on data centers

Editor’s note: We are publishing a series of fact-checks of advertisements in the Pennsylvania 8th Congressional District race between incumbent Republican Congressman Rob Bresnahan of Dallas Twp. and Democratic challenger, Scranton Mayor Paige Cognetti. The election is key for both major

parties’ hopes of holding a House majority the next two years.

By Donnie Collins
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The 30-second ad is paid for by Paige For PA, Cognetti’s official campaign committee. It was

approved by the candidate. The scene opens with two men sitting in Adirondack chairs in a front yard outside a home. One is reading a copy of The Times-Tribune, the other a recent edition of The Citizens’ Voice. “You see this?” one man asks. “Bresnahan wants data centers all over NEPA.”

It kicks off a discussion between the two men centered on Bresnahan’s views and actions on data centers. The other man complains about already-high energy costs, while the original commenter adds that data centers “use more juice than 100,000 Sheetz (gas stations).” He goes on to say that Bresnahan

gave data centers a \$20 billion tax break, adding that he also “bought stock in a data center company.” “Rob Bresnahan is making more money, and we’re stuck with the bill,” he says. Cognetti appears, sitting atop a fallen tree, announcing she

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GARRITY LAMBASTES SHAPIRO FOR PA’S TERRIBLE ECONOMIC STANDING

Pennsylvania’s Republican gubernatorial nominee, PA Treasurer Stacy Garrity, has laid out a plan to lift the state’s economic status should her candidacy for the Commonwealth’s top job be affirmed by the electorate on November 3rd. In her first 100 days, the current Treasurer said she will be laser focused on releasing Pennsylvania’s energy potential. We have oceans of natural gas, which is considered clean energy, under our soil that has been neglected. Garrity said “We should be creating affordable energy, not expensive electric bills”. According to the website richstatespoorstates.com, Pennsylvania is an abysmal 45th in the nation in economic performance. It’ll take a while, but Garrity said unleashing

the gas is expected to generate anywhere from \$5 to \$6 billion a year that will undoubtedly lift that pathetic national standing in economic performance. Garrity is the guest Sunday on The Volpe Report at 10:30 a.m. on FOX 56. During that critical 100 days, Garrity said she will also issue an executive order to keep biological males out of girls’ sports and out of their locker rooms. Sunday’s broadcast will feature an AI piece titled “Middle Finger (Myself to Blame)” parodying Democrat incumbent Governor Josh Shapiro’s missteps in office. This ad will air during the show. MUST SEE.



Stacy Garrity
Republican Governor
Candidate

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