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York Daily Record

TUESDAY, JANUARY 6, 2026facebook.com/yorkdailyrecordYDR.COMPART OF THE USA TODAY NETWORK

# Mayor Helfrich gives final address

York City Mayor Michael Helfrich speaks about his 50-year history and love for the York State Fair before presenting a special proclamation celebrating the fair's 260th anniversary on July 17, 2025. DAN RAINVILLE/YORK DAILY RECORD

## Sandie Walker takes torch Jan. 5

Lena Tzivekis York Daily Record | USA TODAY NETWORK – PENNSYLVANIA

York Mayor Michael Helfrich made his final address to the people of York on Friday, Jan. 2. • Next week, he'll pass the torch to former York City Council President Sandie Walker, who will be sworn in on Monday, Jan. 5. • "I wanted to take a few moments before I leave this office to thank you for the honor you have given me, to represent you over the last 14 years," Helfrich said at the start of his speech.

See HELFRICH, Page 2A

William H. Sleeper Jr., stands with his daughter, Rebecca, 3, after receiving a letter of commendation from York City Department of Fire/Rescue Services in Dec. 2004. PAUL KUEHNEL/YORK DAILY RECORD

# Fire Chief Sleeper to retire

Paul Kuehnel  
York Daily Record  
USA TODAY NETWORK – PENNSYLVANIA

York Fire Chief William Sleeper Jr. will retire after 33 years of service with the city's Department of Fire/Rescue Services, effective Jan. 18, 2026. "I thank Chief Sleeper and his family for the decades given to serve and protect our residents, our property, and the City of York," York Mayor Helfrich said in a news release, "A job well done." Chief William H. Sleeper, Jr. started with the Department on March 9, 1992. Prior to his appointment with

See SLEEPER, Page 2A

# How are local representatives reacting to Venezuela operation?

York Daily Record  
USA TODAY NETWORK

How are York County area politician reacting to news that the Trump administration launched a strike on Venezuela and arrested President Nicolás Maduro and his wife?

Here are statements from some regional political leaders:

**U.S. Rep. Scott Perry, R-10th District, on X**

"Socialism and crime are corrosive to people, cultures, and countries.

Venezuela's long nightmare with an illegitimate, criminal leader is finally over, and its people have been given the opportunity to choose a brighter future. Americans, likewise, can sleep better knowing that the steady stream of Venezuelan gang violence, deadly drugs, and sinister Marxism being

pumped into our Nation has been dealt a decisive blow where good has prevailed over evil. God bless the world's premier U.S. Armed Forces and President Trump for getting this done."

See REACTIONS, Page 2A



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Volume 230, issue 3  
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