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Gov. Josh Shapiro, left, visited Pittsburgh's Cultural District on Friday to announce an ambitious \$600 million collaborative initiative with local leaders, nonprofits and the business community. Seated next to Mr. Shapiro are Lt. Gov. Austin Davis, Allegheny County Executive Sara Innamorato, Pittsburgh Mayor Ed Gainey and state Sen. Jay Costa, D-Allegheny.

\$600M PROPOSAL AIMS TO REVITALIZE DOWNTOWN

'Pittsburgh is finally on offense. We're not on defense anymore'

Harris, Trump take campaigns to Texas

By Mark Belko Pittsburgh Post-Gazette

Gov. Josh Shapiro unveiled a nearly \$600 million plan Friday designed to pump new life into Downtown Pittsburgh at a time when the city center is reeling from high office vacancies, foreclosures, plummetingproperty values and concerns about crime.

The 10-year strategy will be fueled by \$62.6 million in state

investment; more than \$40 million from a local coalition that includes top businesses, foundations and all three of the city's sports teams; and \$22.1 million through the city's Urban Redevelopment Author-

Those contributions are expected to spur an additional \$376.9 million in private investment — largely involving the conversion of seven Downtown buildings for residential reuse, including the historic Gulf Tower.

But there also are initiatives to help fund additional police officers Downtown, to aid those suffering from mental illness or drug addiction, and to create a team to curb youth violence.

In addition, some \$85 million in private, public, and foundation funding will be advanced to help realize the vision laid out by the Allegheny Conference on Community Development in June to make improvements to public spaces, including Market Square and Point State Park.

"Pittsburgh is finally on offense. We're not on defense anymore," said David Holmberg, board chairman of the Allegheny Conference and president and CEO of Highmark Health.

SEE PROPOSAL, PAGE A-2

POLICE CHIEF TO STEP **DOWN**

Scirotto retiring amid scrutiny over referee job

By Megan Guza and Hallie Lauer Pittsburgh Post-Gazette

Pittsburgh police Chief Larry Scirotto will retire from the bureau, officials said

Friday, just 16 months after he was sworn in and a week after he announced he would return to officiating college basketball on the side.

His retirement will be effective Nov. 1. He will receive a yearly pension equal to his chief's salary \$185,400 in 2024.

Public Safety Director Lee Schmidt praised the changes and initiatives the chief brought to the

table over the past year and a half but said his departure shouldn't be seen as a set-

Pittsburgh police

taking the job.

Chief Larry Scirotto is retiring just 16 months after

"The chief didn't do that alone," Mr. Schmidt said. "He had strong assistant chiefs under him ... plus the entire command staff and all the officers every day helping move this bureau forward

SEE SCIROTTO, PAGE A-3

MIDEAST CONFLICT

Israel carries out airstrikes against Iran

By John Gambrell Associated Press

DUBAI, United Arab Emirates — Israel pounded Iran with a series of airstrikes early Saturday, saying it was targeting military sites in retaliation for the barrage of ballistic missiles the Islamic Republic fired upon Israel earlier this month. Explosions could be heard in the Iranian capital, Tehran, though there was no immediate information on damage or casualties.

The attack risks pushing the archenemies closer to all-out war at a time of spiraling violence across the Middle East, where militant groups backed by Iran — including Hamas in Gaza, and Hezbollah in Lebanon—are already at war with Israel. It also marked the first time Israel's military has openly attacked Iran, which hasn't faced a sustained barrage of fire from a foreign enemy since its 1980s war with Iraq.

Israel's hourslong attack ended just

SEE MIDEAST, PAGE A-6





Alex Brandon/Associated Press Republican presidential nominee and former President Donald Trump arrives to speak at a news conference Friday in Austin, Texas.

Star-studded rally, podcast highlight candidates' push

The Associated Press

Kamala Harris and Donald Trump centered their attention on Texas on Friday, with both presidential candidates holding events in the staunchly Republican state.

The vice president teamed up with Beyoncé for a rally aimed at highlighting the perilous medical fallout from the state's strict abortion ban and putting the blame



MORE INSIDE

- Washington Post to stop endorsing presidential candidates. A-4
- Chinese hackers targeted cellphones used by Trump, Vance. A-4

squarely on Trump. Meanwhile, the former president held a news

SEE **ELECTION**, PAGE A-4



Susan Walsh/Associated Press Democratic presidential nominee and Vice President Kamala Harris speaks to reporters in Houston on Friday.

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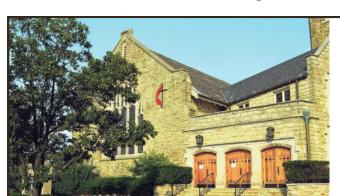
Breezy and partly cloudy. Daytime high, 60; tonight's low, 38. Page B-6

Almanac	A-2
Bridge	B-4
Business	A-10
Classified	B-5

Crosswords Editorials ... Horoscope .

Magazine	
Obituaries Scoreboard	
Sports	
Television	B-2







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