

# Pittsburgh Post-Gazette

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## Pa. mine safety center to close

Mount Pleasant office that investigated deaths, injuries, affected by federal cuts

By Jimmy Cloutier  
Pittsburgh Post-Gazette

Months after the federal government pushed to shutter dozens of mine safety centers across the country, the Mount Pleasant office — the busiest in the nation — will close in August after years

of carrying out death and injury investigations of coal workers, the Post-Gazette has learned. The Mine Safety and Health Administration will end its lease for the district office, which oversees inspections of hundreds of mines across Pennsylvania, in a sweeping move that will shift the

safety oversight to other offices in the state and West Virginia, said two sources who spoke on the condition of anonymity. The closing of the Mount Pleasant office is the latest in a series of cutbacks by the federal government to rein in costs at the same time the Trump administration is pushing to boost coal production nationally. Although the Department of Government Efficiency (DOGE) — a cost-cutting panel once led by

billionaire Elon Musk — initially sought to shutter 34 mine safety offices, it recently reversed course and left most of them intact, except Mount Pleasant and three others. The move to shut the offices has taken inspectors by surprise and raised alarms among work safety advocates who worry that the closures will disrupt the government's ability to inspect

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TRUMP BUDGET BILL

## SENATE GOP: PASSAGE IS NEAR

But massive tax measure still meeting resistance

By Jacob Bogage and Theodor Meyer  
The Washington Post

WASHINGTON — Senate Republicans hoped they were hours away Monday from passing their massive tax and immigration bill, putting them one step closer to their first major legislative victory of President Donald Trump's second term. Trump's One Big Beautiful Bill Act would extend tax cuts passed in 2017, enact campaign promises such as no tax on tips, spend hundreds of billions of dollars on immigration and defense, and slash social benefit programs. The \$3.3 trillion legislation survived a brief GOP revolt over the weekend to allow the chamber to move forward with debate on the measure — but its passage remains far from certain. Senate Republicans have a 53-47 majority, so they can lose only three votes. Sen. Thom Tillis, R-N.C., took to the Senate floor twice Sunday night to excoriate his party's legislation, saying it would break Trump's promise not to cut Medicaid benefits and would put more than 600,000 people in his state at risk of losing their health insurance. Mr. Tillis announced Sunday — after Trump threatened him with a primary challenge for voting against starting debate on the bill — that he would not seek re-election next year. Sen. Rand Paul, R-Ky., is also expected to oppose the bill because it would raise the debt limit by \$5 trillion. And Sens. Susan Collins, R-Maine, and Lisa Murkowski, R-Alaska, have expressed concerns over the bill's Medicaid funding cuts in the bill and have not said how they will vote. Vice President JD Vance nearly had to cast the tiebreaking vote Saturday night to start debate on the bill before Sen. Ron

SEE **BILL**, PAGE A-7

## TAKING THE REINS



Sebastian Foltz/Post-Gazette  
Harper Reinert, 12, of Prospect, leads her sister Harlow Reinert, 3, on her horse Belle, 25, with their sister Hadley Reinert, 7, in the kids 3-5 horse walk and trot competition at Monday at the Big Butler Fair. The fair continues through Saturday.

## Giant Eagle's GetGo sale fuels new ambitions

By Anya Litvak  
Pittsburgh Post-Gazette

Attention Giant Eagle shoppers: Your perks are safe. Now that the Cranberry-based grocer has completed the sale of its GetGo division to Canadian company Alimentation Couche-Tard for \$1.57 billion over the weekend, CEO Bill Artman once again assured customers that the split won't change anything for them.

Even the GetGo name will remain and, perhaps in the future, those perks, which accumulate when a customer shops either at Giant Eagle or at GetGo, will also extend to Circle K locations, the gas station and convenience store brand owned by Couche-Tard, Mr. Artman said. The fuel business, which includes the gas pumps and the associated convenience stores, accounted for 25% of Giant Eagle's sales.

The company's revenue was around \$11.9 billion in the most recent fiscal year, Mr. Artman confirmed. According to its own data, the intersection between customers that use GetGo stations to fill up and grocery shop at Giant Eagle is around 56%, which means the retailer will be losing some customers. But while fuel is in the rear-view mirror for Giant Eagle, its growing pharmacy business,

which now accounts for 30% of sales, received a significant boost from the bankruptcy of Rite Aid Corp. Giant Eagle bought customer files at auction for an undisclosed but "pretty significant investment," Mr. Artman said, amounting to about 6 million prescriptions a year. He couldn't say how many people that represents, as some have more than one

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COMMENTARY

## Steelers throwing deep this offseason

Moves indicate Tomlin eyeing big payoff

By Jason Mackey  
Pittsburgh Post-Gazette

So often with the teams we follow, we search for linear fits. This player addresses that need. If there's too much of one thing, give it up to get something else. And my personal favorite: trading the bad and acquiring good. What the Steelers did Monday, however, doesn't fit those descriptors. It was unique, fun and aggressive — and it could tell us something bigger about head

coach Mike Tomlin. It's also awfully tough to call the Steelers boring. The sum total of the moves brought cornerback Jalen Ramsey, tight end Jonnu Smith and a 2027 seventh-round pick to Pittsburgh, with safety Minkah Fitzpatrick and a 2027 fifth-round pick going back to the Miami Dolphins. It also makes me wonder whether the Steelers are done. Could they add another true

SEE **MACKEY**, PAGE A-2



Associated Press

By trading to get former Miami Dolphins player Jalen Ramsey, a three-time first-team All-Pro cornerback, the Steelers might have upgraded their secondary. More details on the deal in **Sports, C-1**.

STATE BUDGET

## Shapiro says deal is 'very close'

Fears cuts in federal bill would be 'devastating'

By Ford Turner  
Pittsburgh Post-Gazette

HARRISBURG — Just hours ahead of the deadline for a state budget, Gov. Josh Shapiro said Monday negotiators are "very, very close" to an agreement and will continue to work as the new fiscal year starts on Tuesday. The Democratic governor also had strong words for federal lawmakers who appeared poised to vote on a Republican-driven, 1,100-page reconciliation bill that Mr. Shapiro said would have "devastating" consequences for Pennsylvanians. The bill would cause 500,000 people in the state to lose health care coverage, he said, and about 140,000 people would lose access to food assistance. Mr. Shapiro warned, as he had previously, that "Pennsylvania can't backfill those cuts." Republicans, meanwhile, have said the federal spending programs are bloated and must be reduced in size. Negotiations on a 2025-26 budget are being carried on behind closed doors, with the key factions being Mr. Shapiro's

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**Weather**  
Humid with storms possible. Daytime high, 81; tonight's low, 66.  
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