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ERADICATE HATE SUMMIT



Benjamin B. Braun/Post-Gazette photos

From left, Maggie Feinstein, of the 10.27 Healing Partnership; Amy Mallinger, REACH co-founder whose grandmother, Rose Mallinger, was killed in the Oct. 27, 2018, Pittsburgh synagogue shooting; Nick Haberman, of the LIGHT Education Initiative; and Ranisa Davidson of the 10.27 Healing Partnership and a REACH co-founder, speak Monday during the Eradicate Hate Global Summit inside the David L. Lawrence Convention Center in Downtown. The three-day summit draws hate-speech experts and leaders from around the globe.

Plan to help city centers fizzles

State legislation would have enabled new tax

By Mark Belko
Pittsburgh Post-Gazette

A proposal that would allow the city of Pittsburgh to impose new taxes or fees to help finance revitalization efforts Downtown appears to have fizzled out, at least for the time being.

State legislation that would have enabled the city to "levy a tax or impose additional fees" or divert revenue from existing taxes to fund such initiatives apparently has yet to make it out of the draft stage.

Given that, it's unlikely that such a bill will be considered during the current legislative session in Harrisburg, which is set to finish at the end of November.

"I think it's dead," said Sen. Wayne Fontana, the Brookline Democrat whose district includes Downtown.

Under draft legislation obtained by the Pittsburgh Post-Gazette in August, money raised through taxes or fees could be used to help fund the conversion of failing Downtown office buildings into residential or to fill ground-floor or lower-level commercial spaces.

Revenue also could be earmarked to advance "critical infrastructure and amenity projects

SEE **PLAN**, PAGE A-8

MIDEAST CONFLICT

Israel says more strikes are to come

Aims to push Hezbollah out of southern Lebanon

By Sarah El Deeb and Samy Magdy
Associated Press

BEIRUT — Israel said late Monday it planned to carry out more strikes in Lebanon against a Hezbollah-run financial institution that it targeted the night before and which it says uses customers' deposits to finance attacks against Israel.

Nearly a dozen branches of Al-Qard Al-Hasan were hit late Sunday in the southern neighborhoods of Beirut, across southern Lebanon and in the eastern Bekaa Valley, where Hezbollah has a strong presence. One strike flattened a nine-story building in Beirut with a branch inside it. Smoke rose from several locations on Monday.

The Israeli military issued evacuation warnings ahead of the strikes. There were no reports of casualties.

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EXTENDING THEIR REACH

Synagogue shooting survivors help to broaden anti-hate narrative

By Laura Esposito
Pittsburgh Post-Gazette

Every time Andrea Wedner feels a familiar twinge of pain in her arm, it's a reminder.

Not of the gunshot wound she'll likely never completely recover from, but of the more profound pain she feels over the death of her mother, Rose Mallinger, and the 10 others shot and killed beside her nearly six years ago.

Ms. Wedner was the only Tree of Life congregant left alive in the Pervin Chapel after the Pittsburgh synagogue shooting on Oct. 27, 2018, the deadliest act of

antisemitism on American soil.

While she grappled with her grief, Ms. Wedner also struggled to find a path forward, one that would honor her mother's memory. Eventually, she found her way through the REACH program (Remember, Educate, and Combat Hate), a newly formed bureau of survivors and family members who lost loved ones in the shooting.

"Keeping [my mother's] spirit alive fuels my commitment to make a positive impact in the lives of others," Ms. Wedner said Monday morning, standing

SEE **SUMMIT**, PAGE A-3



Rod Wedner and his wife, Andrea Wedner, speak to the media at the Eradicate Hate Summit on Monday. Ms. Wedner was wounded and her mother was one of the 11 people killed during the Pittsburgh synagogue shooting on Oct. 27, 2018.

Will the gender gap sway the vote in Pennsylvania?

By Laura Esposito and Anya Sostek
Pittsburgh Post-Gazette

Thursday afternoon, Tori Casarella and three fellow female University of Pittsburgh students sat near Schenley Plaza behind a yellow folding table with a sign taped on the front that read "Register to vote today."

All were members of Project 26, a nonpartisan student organization named as tribute to the 26th Amendment, which lowered the voting age to 18.

Project 26 aims to register students to vote, regardless of polit-



ical affiliation. But as individuals, the women said they were all supporters of Vice President Kamala Harris. Ms. Casarella, a junior at Pitt, and her friends have noticed a gender gap in the upcoming election, with women like themselves drawn more toward Ms. Harris, and more men drawn toward former President Donald Trump. For them, it's become a dating and

friendship gap as well — these women have no interest in consorting with male Trump supporters.

"The major gap between male and females is [due to] the issues that we're going to be facing in the upcoming election," said Ms. Casarella, of Wilkes-Barre, Pa. "Because of systemic issues, women feel a need to continue educating themselves and prove themselves, and as a result [we're] more aware of issues — maybe in a way that men aren't or don't feel the need to be."

SEE **VOTE**, PAGE A-2



ELECTION COVERAGE

- Polls show Harris, Trump locked in dead heat with 2 weeks until election, **A-10**
- Cheney helps Harris seek moderate votes as they paint Trump as a dangerous choice, **A-4**
- Trump makes more debunked claims about FEMA as he surveys storm damage in North Carolina, **A-4**



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Weather
Mostly sunny.
Daytime high, 82;
tonight's low, 54.
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