

Pittsburgh Post-Gazette

ONE OF AMERICA'S GREAT NEWSPAPERS

\$4.00 238 YEARS OF SERVICE

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 15, 2024

VOL. 98, NO. 106, 11/15/24

FINAL

Another lift for Downtown

URA to provide additional \$10.3 million for building conversions in city's center

By Mark Belko
Pittsburgh Post-Gazette

Pittsburgh Urban Redevelopment Authority board members have authorized another \$10.3 million for office-to-residential conversions in Downtown while moving to establish a new fund to support such ventures in the future.

The \$10.3 million approved by board members Thursday will be used for four building conversions. It is part of the \$26 million the authority has earmarked for eight projects overall, seven of which were included in the nearly \$600 million Downtown revitalization plan announced last month by Gov. Josh Shapiro.

Also Thursday, the board took the first steps toward creating a Manchester-Chateau Transit Revitalization Investment District that is projected to raise \$53.9 million to support another big initiative — a

\$600 million North Side redevelopment featuring a giant Ferris wheel as well as related infrastructure and community improvements.

Of the additional \$10.3 million authorized for Downtown, the biggest chunk — \$4.25 million — will go for the conversion of a 12-story building at Smithfield Street and Fort Pitt Boulevard into 46

SEE URA, PAGE A-3

CHARLEROI

Judge: Glass plant can close

Layoffs scheduled to start next month

By Madaleine Rubin
Pittsburgh Post-Gazette

A federal district court on Thursday greenlit the next steps in the shutdown of a Washington County glass factory — a major blow to the region's economy and community.

The U.S. District Court for the Western District of Pennsylvania rejected a motion for a preliminary injunction to halt the removal of equipment from the plant, filed by the Office of the Attorney General last week. Anchor Hocking — affiliates of the private equity firm Centre Lane Partners and operators of the Charleroi plant — internally announced in September its plans to close the 132-year-old factory and move all services to another plant in Lancaster, Ohio, eliminating over 250 jobs in Charleroi.

Thursday's decision — which followed a hearing on Tuesday — reverses a restraining order by the court last week that temporarily paused the shutdown.

Anchor Hocking gained control of the factory in March, when it acquired the housewares division of Instant Brands, former owners of the Charleroi factory. The attorney general's effort to prevent the plant's closure is part of a broader antitrust review of that merger.

"While the Court is sympathetic to employees whose jobs might be at risk and a long-time local facility that may cease production, in the specific context of this case, the Court must narrowly consider the

SEE FACTORY, PAGE A-2

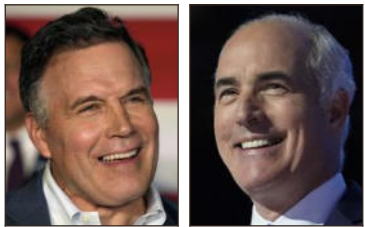
CITY SLICKER



Sebastian Foltz/Post-Gazette

A pedestrian walks in the rain Thursday on Grandview Avenue on Mount Washington. Friday will be cloudy and milder with a high of 56. The region is forecast to be free of rain this weekend. **Weather, Page B-6**

Senate recount set amid legal battles



Republican candidate David McCormick leads Sen. Bob Casey by fewer than 27,000 votes.

Final result may not be known until Nov. 27

By Benjamin Kail
Pittsburgh Post-Gazette

WASHINGTON — Pennsylvania's tight U.S. Senate race is no less contentious as when it began as it winds down to a final phase including a recount and bitter legal challenges over ballots in multiple counties.

Republican David McCormick leads three-term Democratic incumbent Sen. Bob Casey by fewer than 27,000 votes — under the half a percentage point margin threshold that triggers a recount per state law.

The Associated Press called the race last week, but Mr. Casey has not conceded, prompting an auto-

matic recount announced by state officials this week, along with criticism from Republican lawmakers and McCormick allies who say the

SEE RECOUNT, PAGE A-2

RFK Jr. picked to lead Health Dept.

President-elect Donald Trump said Friday he will nominate Robert F. Kennedy Jr., an anti-vaccine activist, to lead the Department of Health and Human Services. **Story, A-4**



State: 'Mayor of Kingstown' filming at Western Pen will end next year

By Mark Belko
Pittsburgh Post-Gazette

It might be the government equivalent of a film director yelling "cut."

The Pennsylvania Department of General Services has informed Paramount that it no longer will be able to film "Mayor of Kingstown" at the closed State Correctional Institution Pittsburgh as of next November.

That's because the state is moving ahead with plans to raze the old prison — despite two

proposals for its redevelopment and the filming that has been taking place there.

Demolition work at the SCI Pittsburgh site is expected to start as soon as November of 2025. Due to safety concerns, once demolition work has started, filming at SCI Pittsburgh will not be permitted within the project boundaries," said Eric Veronikis, a spokesman for the Department of General Services.

Consultant Michael Baker International

SEE WESTERN, PAGE A-10



Sebastian Foltz/Post-Gazette

FIRE DESTROYS POPULAR PUB

Firefighters respond to a fire at Riley's Pour House in Carnegie on Thursday. The popular Irish pub was destroyed and at least four other buildings were damaged. **Story, Page A-11**



ONLINE TODAY:
Get real-time breaking news and much more at post-gazette.com

Weather
Cloudy and milder. Daytime high, 56; tonight's low, 46. **Page B-6**

Bridge.....B-4
Business.....A-14
Classified.....B-5
Comics.....B-3
Crosswords.....B-4

Editorials.....A-16
Horoscope.....B-4
Local News.....A-11
Lottery.....A-11
Magazine.....B-1

Obituaries.....A-12
Perspectives.....A-17
Scoreboard.....C-7
Sports.....C-1
Television.....B-2



BEST Bites DOWNTOWN

GET A TASTE OF THE CITY WITH BEST BITES DOWNTOWN!

Saturday, Dec. 7, 2024 | 12-4 p.m.

madeinpgh.com/bestbites

Produced By

