



Pittsburgh Post-Gazette

ONE OF AMERICA'S GREAT NEWSPAPERS

\$4.00 239 YEARS OF SERVICE THURSDAY, OCTOBER 30, 2025 VOL. 99, NO. 90, 10/30/25 FINAL

NAVAL CENTERS IN JEOPARDY

Lawmakers move to shut down Reserve facilities, including one near Pittsburgh

By Evan Robinson-Johnson
Pittsburgh Post-Gazette

WASHINGTON — In a move that has sparked internal backlash among the nation's veterans, congressional leaders are threatening to shut down the U.S. Naval Reserve Centers — including the hub near Pittsburgh — ending an institution that has served the military for generations, the Pittsburgh Post-Gazette has learned.

As part of a larger defense bill, the U.S. Senate voted earlier this month to eliminate more than 100 of the fa-

cilities, saying they no longer meet the needs of the Navy.

The action by the lawmakers on Oct. 9, which includes the closing of the center west of Pittsburgh and others in Erie, Harrisburg, and Avoca (near Pittston), is detailed in a plan to dismantle the network that extends into every corner of the country.

The vote comes just two months after Defense Secretary Pete Hegseth fired the chief of the Navy Reserve, Vice Adm. Nancy Lacore,

SEE **NAVAL**, PAGE A-2



Sebastian Foltz/Post-Gazette

Retired U.S. Navy Capt. Byron King shows a picture of his former reserve unit and a photo of himself in uniform Wednesday at his home in Mt. Lebanon.

GOVERNMENT SHUTDOWN

Federal workers in region impacted

Protracted impasse could affect thousands

By Sam Janesch
Pittsburgh Post-Gazette

WASHINGTON — They provide medical care for veterans and assistance to seniors on Social Security. They operate dams in local waterways and research some of the country's most vexing energy problems. They screen passengers at the airport and deliver the mail.

And as lawmakers squabble in Washington, their paychecks may be showing up blank.

More than 19,000 people in the eight-county Pittsburgh metro area work for the federal government, collecting \$480 million in quarterly wages in positions that, on average, far exceed the median salary, according to the latest available quarterly census of employment and wages.

But the federal government shutdown that began Oct. 1 has extended so long that many employees have now missed at least one full paycheck — a reality that's ramping up the financial pressure on workers and the political pressure on lawmakers who've refused to give an inch during the stalemate.

"Both political parties have made their point, and still there is no clear end in sight," Everett Kelley, who leads the

SEE **WORKERS**, PAGE A-6

HELP IS ON THE WAY



Giuseppe LoPiccolo/Post-Gazette

Volunteers work to pack hygiene products into care packages Wednesday at the Brother's Brother Foundation, a North Side nonprofit that ships humanitarian supplies and medical equipment globally. The packages will be sent to Jamaica, which was heavily impacted by

Businesses step up as SNAP aid is set to expire

By Stephana Ocneanu
Pittsburgh Post-Gazette

The entrance to Lelulo's Pizzeria looked more like a food pantry than a restaurant early this week.

Tables were lined with jars of baby food, Snack Packs, loaves of bread and canned goods while refrigerators were stuffed with dairy, vegetables and meat Monday afternoon.

Shuffling in and out of the pizzeria was owner Patyn McCune, hauling bags of groceries from her car.

The restaurant in Plum is usually closed on Mondays. But Ms. McCune posted a message on the restaurant's Facebook page inviting anyone who needed help to come in and take what they needed between 11 a.m. and 4 p.m. — no questions asked.

Her gesture came as about 300,000 Pittsburgh-area residents are preparing to

SEE **SNAP**, PAGE A-7

Donations help fund school's field trips

By Megan Tomasic
Pittsburgh Post-Gazette

Students at Minadeo PreK-5 will still get to enjoy their field trips this fall thanks to parents and community members who stepped in to cover costs as the state budget stalemate stretches beyond 100 days late.

A GoFundMe page was set up this month to help the Minadeo PTO raise funds to cover field trip transportation costs. Typically, those costs are covered by indi-

STATE BUDGET IMPASSE

vidual schools, while at Minadeo, a Squirrel Hill school of 300 students, the PTO pays for admission of students and teachers during the trip.

So far, the GoFundMe has raised almost \$3,600.

"Blown away," Stephanie Kater, the vice president of the Minadeo PTO, a nonprofit organization separate from the school

and district that focuses on enhancing the educational experience of Minadeo students, said of the funds. "I don't think any of us thought that it would get anywhere near what it has done."

The GoFundMe was started amid the state budget impasse that has caused districts statewide, including Pittsburgh Public, to miss out on millions of dollars of state payments.

In response, the district earlier this month announced it was taking a "series of temporary fiscal

safeguards" to preserve classroom operations and protect staff payroll.

That included a hiring freeze for all vacant and newly vacated positions except those directly serving students in the classroom; suspending all nonessential purchases; restricting non-mandated travel and nonessential overtime; and placing a temporary hold on the execution of new or renewed contractual agreements not

SEE **FIELD**, PAGE A-6



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

Weather

Breezy with rain.
Daytime high, 52;
tonight's low, 41.
Page B-8

Bridge.....D-8
Business.....D-1
Celebrations.....B-2
Classified.....C-11
Comics.....D-7
Crosswords.....D-8

Editorials.....A-10
Food.....E-1
High Schools.....C-2
Horoscope.....D-8
Local News.....B-1
Lottery.....B-2

Obituaries.....B-5
Perspectives.....A-11
Scoreboard.....C-10
Sports.....C-1
Television.....C-9
Weekend Mag.....WE-1



Because she's my Aunt **Care**

"My Aunt Vanessa stepped up when I needed her, now it's my turn to make sure she gets the care she needs."

Presbyterian **SeniorCare** NETWORK.

SrCare.org/care
OAKMONT CAMPUS 412.828.5600
WASHINGTON CAMPUS 724.222.4300

