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May 25, 2021

Township Video News



TVN's PSATS Roulette | Memorial Day's True Meaning

Picnics and parades are popular on Memorial Day, but there are other ways to pay tribute to the military men and women who the holiday honors. Maybe this is the year to start a new tradition? (1:57)

Latest News

Tonight is the Night!

If you have strong opinions about tolls coming to a road or bridge near you, or if you have concerns about paying a fee based on the number of miles you drive annually, PSATS urges you to participate and voice your concerns before it is too late!

The state Department of Transportation is holding a telephone town hall **today at 6 p.m.** to receive comments on its revised PennDOT Pathways Program. Pathways contains ideas for filling the \$8.1 billion annual highway and bridge transportation funding gap and incorporates public comment into the Planning and Environmental Linkages (PEL) Study.

To participate, dial in directly to the meeting at 855-756-7520, entry code ext. 73539#.

The PennDOT Pathways program is evaluating near- and long-term transportation funding solutions for Pennsylvania. Options under consideration include the Major Bridge Public-Private Partnership (P3) Initiative, which would fund the reconstruction or replacement of the identified bridges through tolling. Other options include corridor tolling, managed lanes, congestion pricing, and a road user charge.

The department is requesting public feedback on the plan **until June 1, 2021**. To learn more about the Pathways findings, [click here](#). To read the study, [click here](#). To comment, email PennDOTPathways@pa.gov or call 717-325-6129. Please copy PSATS Government Relations Director Joe Gerdes on submitted comments to jgerdes@psats.org. PSATS will provide comments in accordance with existing policies and resolutions. To view PSATS' comments on the original plan, [click here](#).

Webinar Available on Utility-Scale Solar Development for Local Officials

Penn State Extension is hosting a free webinar on Utility Scale Solar Development in Pennsylvania for Local Officials. The webinar will take place tomorrow, May 26, at 10 a.m. The webinar will discuss proposed projects, their locations, and development possibilities with fellow local government officials. To register or learn more, [click here](#).

Natural Gas Production Up in PA

The Independent Fiscal Office (IFO) has released its Natural Gas Production Report for the first quarter of 2021. Natural gas production volume from horizontal wells was up by 5.4% compared to the first quarter of 2020, and 133 new horizontal wells were spud in the first quarter of 2021. This can mean additional impact fee revenue as well as an indicator that Pennsylvania is still heading towards energy independence. [Click here](#) for more.

On This Day in History....1935

On May 25, 1935, Babe Ruth hits the final home run of his career. At 714 home runs, Ruth's career record stood until April 8, 1974, when Hank Aaron hit his 715th home run.

Legislation & Policy



The House and Senate will be in session today, May 25th. Watch session live [here](#).

PSATS to Testify before Senate Committees on Solar Farms

Southampton Township Supervisor and PSATS Executive Board Member Samuel Cressler is scheduled to testify before a joint hearing of the Senate Agricultural & Rural Affairs and Local Government Committees today. Cressler's comments will focus on how plans for commercial solar farms have sprung up across the commonwealth and how municipalities are faced with the need to review and amend existing ordinances, or adopt new ordinances, to reasonably regulate this new use before it arrives.

The hearing, which will begin at 9:30 a.m. can be livestreamed [here](#).

[Click here](#) to read the full testimony.

House Transportation Committee Approves Snow and Ice Removal Legislation

Yesterday, the House Transportation Committee approved SB 114 which would require the driver of a motor vehicle to remove accumulated ice or snow from the motor vehicle, including the hood, trunk, and roof. Additionally, when snow or ice is dislodged or falls from a moving vehicle and strikes another vehicle or a pedestrian causing death or serious bodily injury, the operator of the vehicle would be subject to a fine of not less than \$200 nor more than \$1,000 for each offense. SB 114 is now before the House.

Learn

PSATS educational events will be listed as follows: Mondays – All webinars; Tuesdays – Administrative; Wednesdays – Planning/Zoning; Thursdays – Public Works; Fridays – Public Safety. Click on the title of the class for more information and to register.

[Social Media: The New Public Forum - Virtual - 5/26/21](#)

Attend this session to learn more about the newest public forum, social media. The presenters will cover a number of concerns for local leaders, including navigating the First Amendment, the Right-to-Know Law, and record retention requirements.



[Successful Collective Bargaining with Municipal Employees - Virtual - 5/26/21](#)

It is essential for municipal managers and elected officials to understand the Act 111 and Act 195 collective bargaining and interest arbitration process. The presenters will review critical skills, including how to negotiate and communicate your goals appropriately. Participants will walk away with practical advice on getting the most out of these processes.



[Navigating the Minefield of Employee Medical Leaves of Absence - Virtual - 5/26/21](#)

This workshop will explain the rules of the road in an easy to understand manner and provide practical, real-world advice on how to get these issues right every time. Participants will leave knowing how to confidently handle these situations in the future.



Employment Disasters in Social Media - Virtual - 5/27/21

From the White House to the local police station, examples abound of officials and employees who have used social media in good and bad ways. This session will address recent social media disasters and how townships can avoid them.



Payroll with QuickBooks - Virtual Class - 5/20 & 27 & 6/3/21

Join us for this three-session virtual class for in-depth training on how to use QuickBooks Payroll . You will learn the proper way to have your Chart of Accounts set up along with Setting up Payroll items and mapping them correctly. We will learn about Employee Preferences to make setting up new employees easier. Most importantly, we will learn how to set up Payroll Liability schedules, e-pay and efile forms to make it seamless when doing your payroll using QuickBooks .



Pennsylvania State Association of Township Supervisors

David M. Sanko, Executive Director

4855 Woodland Drive
Enola, PA 17025