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## Mentions

Beaver County Radio: Fracking permits challenged by Pennsylvania group

<https://beavercountyradio.com/news/fracking-permits-challenged-by-pennsylvania-group/>

## Conservation and Recreation

Meadville Tribune: Editorial: Take a hike! Kick off the new year with First Day Hikes at state parks

[https://www.meadvilletribune.com/opinion/editorial-take-a-hike-kick-off-the-new-year-with-first-day-hikes-at-state/article\\_5c183476-c47b-11ef-a03a-4354ac9b6dbd.html](https://www.meadvilletribune.com/opinion/editorial-take-a-hike-kick-off-the-new-year-with-first-day-hikes-at-state/article_5c183476-c47b-11ef-a03a-4354ac9b6dbd.html)

Erie Times: Bald Eagles Official National Bird, What To Know About Them In PA

<https://www.goerie.com/story/sports/outdoors/2024/12/30/where-can-you-find-eagles-in-pennsylvania-eagles-diet-nests-unique-features-game-commission/77329760007/>

Observer-Reporter: Swimmers flock to the Yough for annual New Year's Day polar bear plunge

<https://www.observer-reporter.com/news/2025/jan/01/swimmers-flock-to-the-yough-for-annual-new-years-day-polar-bear-plunge/>

Pittsburgh Post-Gazette: 'This washed away a lot': Frigid polar plunge cleanses Pittsburghers

<https://www.post-gazette.com/news/2025/01/01/this-washed-away-a-lot-frigid-polar-plunge-cleanses-pittsburghers/stories/202501010051>

Tribune-Democrat: First Day Hikes draw explorers to local trails

[https://www.tribdem.com/news/first-day-hikes-draw-explorers-to-local-trails/article\\_6dbc17a4-c888-11ef-9152-d3f5c42630ef.html](https://www.tribdem.com/news/first-day-hikes-draw-explorers-to-local-trails/article_6dbc17a4-c888-11ef-9152-d3f5c42630ef.html)

Pittsburgh Business Times: Book of List images: The Pittsburgh Zoo and Aquarium is where the wild things are

<https://www.bizjournals.com/pittsburgh/news/2025/01/01/pittsburgh-zoo-aquarium-images.html>

WJAC: First Day Hike in Blair County promotes physical fitness

<https://wjactv.com/news/local/first-day-hike-in-blair-county-promotes-physical-fitness#>

Union Progress: Third time's the charm: I jumped into the Mon River for the third year in a row

<https://www.unionprogress.com/2025/01/01/polarplunge010125/>

Lancaster Online: Pinnacle Outlook hikers join 1,000 state parks nationwide for the 2025 First Day Hikes program

[https://lancasteronline.com/news/local/pinnacle-outlook-hikers-join-1-000-state-parks-nationwide-for-the-2025-first-day-hikes/article\\_0660091c-c888-11ef-b9c0-57cb9eb2f2f7.html](https://lancasteronline.com/news/local/pinnacle-outlook-hikers-join-1-000-state-parks-nationwide-for-the-2025-first-day-hikes/article_0660091c-c888-11ef-b9c0-57cb9eb2f2f7.html)

## Energy

Bradford Era: Shapiro files complaint about higher energy prices

[https://www.bradfordera.com/news/shapiro-files-complaint-about-higher-energy-prices/article\\_c49ded32-c86e-11ef-9e36-1f48e3945000.html](https://www.bradfordera.com/news/shapiro-files-complaint-about-higher-energy-prices/article_c49ded32-c86e-11ef-9e36-1f48e3945000.html)

Latrobe Bulletin: Shapiro files complaint about higher energy prices

[https://www.latrobebulletinnews.com/news/local/shapiro-files-complaint-about-higher-energy-prices/article\\_cfb526a2-c85c-11ef-818f-b726e092ec01.html](https://www.latrobebulletinnews.com/news/local/shapiro-files-complaint-about-higher-energy-prices/article_cfb526a2-c85c-11ef-818f-b726e092ec01.html)

Pittsburgh Business Times: Shapiro files complaint with FERC against power grid operator, alleging flaws in capacity auction rules

<https://www.bizjournals.com/pittsburgh/news/2024/12/31/shapiro-complaint-ferc-pjm-interconnection.html>

WESA: Pa. schools can apply for state aid to install solar energy, save money

<https://www.wesa.fm/environment-energy/2025-01-02/pennsylvania-solar-for-schools-applications-funding>

Pittsburgh Post-Gazette: Senate Republican Leader Pittman says Shapiro complaint against electricity coordinator 'rings hollow'

<https://www.post-gazette.com/news/politics-state/2024/12/31/pennsylvania-pittman-shapiro-electricity-pjm/stories/202412310046>

Tribune Review: Solar power battle brewing in North Huntingdon

<https://triblive.com/local/westmoreland/solar-power-battle-brewing-in-north-huntingdon/>

Lebtown.com: Lebanon and Butler counties receive new EV charging stations thru NEVI program

<https://lebtown.com/2025/01/02/lebanon-and-butler-counties-receive-new-ev-charging-stations-thru-nevi-program/>

Altoona Mirror: Peoples Gas rates to increase

<https://www.altoonamirror.com/news/local-news/2025/1/peoples-gas-rates-to-increase/>

## Oil and Gas

Pittsburgh Business Times: EQT joint venture for Mountain Valley Pipeline assets formed

<https://www.bizjournals.com/pittsburgh/news/2024/12/31/eqt-joint-venture-mvp-formed.html>

The Energy Age Blog: EQT Executes New Gas Well Drilling Plan in Union Twp, Washington County, PA

<https://the-energy-age.com/2025/01/01/eqt-executes-new-gas-well-drilling-plan-in-union-township-pennsylvania/>

Altoona Mirror: Peoples Gas Natural Gas Rates To Increase Jan. 1

<https://www.altoonamirror.com/news/local-news/2025/01/peoples-gas-rates-to-increase/>

WTaj: More than 200K Pennsylvania residents could see 18% increase to gas bill in 2025  
<https://www.wtaj.com/news/local-news/more-than-200k-pennsylvania-residents-could-see-18-increase-to-gas-bill-in-2025/>

## **Waste**

The Mon Valley Independent: Rostraver OKs budget, looks to 2025  
<https://www.monvalleyindependent.com/2025/01/02/rostraver-oks-budget-looks-to-2025/>

The Mon Valley Independent: White Oak approves 2025 budget, sets refuse collection rates  
<https://www.monvalleyindependent.com/2025/01/02/white-oak-approves-2025-budget-sets-refuse-collection-rates/>

Tribune Review: East Deer residents to pay 35% more for garbage collection  
<https://triblive.com/local/valley-news-dispatch/east-deer-residents-to-pay-35-more-for-garbage-collection/>

Reading Eagle: Developers of waste processing facility plan in Berks to hold information session  
<https://www.readingeagle.com/2024/12/30/developers-of-waste-processing-facility-plan-in-berks-to-hold-information-session/>

Lebtown.com: Power up to safe battery disposal  
<https://lebtown.com/2025/01/02/power-up-to-safe-battery-disposal/>

## **Miscellaneous**

Tribune Review: Report: Nippon Steel offers 10-year guarantee to gain approval of U.S. Steel acquisition  
<https://triblive.com/business/report-nippon-steel-offers-10-year-guarantee-to-gain-approval-of-u-s-steel-acquisition/>

Pittsburgh Post-Gazette: 'Adapt and evolve:' As it turns 63, Oxford Development Company has stayed nimble to maintain its vitality  
<https://www.post-gazette.com/business/development/2025/01/02/oxford-development-company-monroeville-mall-south-hills-village/stories/202501020031>

Pittsburgh Post-Gazette: One Pittsburgh long-timer acquires another, as Wabtec completes \$69M deal for Bloom Engineering  
<https://www.post-gazette.com/business/powersource/2024/12/31/wabtec-bloom-railroad-pittsburgh-engineering/stories/202412310074>

Pittsburgh Business Times: Department of Transportation denies Aurora, Waymo request for hazards exemption  
<https://www.bizjournals.com/pittsburgh/inno/stories/news/2024/12/31/dot-aurora-waymo-hazards.html>

KDKA: Nippon Steel proposal gives U.S. government veto power over potential cuts to U.S. Steel's production capacity

<https://www.cbsnews.com/pittsburgh/news/us-steel-nippon-steel-proposal-government-veto-power/>

WTAE: Portions of rail service in Pittsburgh closed until March

<https://www.wtae.com/article/portions-of-rail-service-closed-until-march/63319656>

WTAE: Road closed for hours after truck hauling trailer hits multiple power lines in Westmoreland County

<https://www.wtae.com/article/hempfield-westmoreland-county-truck-trailer-power-lines-road-closure/63317869>

WPXI: Construction of public works facility to serve Beechview, Brookline neighborhoods hits another snag

<https://www.wpxi.com/news/local/construction-public-works-facility-serve-beechview-brookline-neighborhoods-hits-another-snag/TMMNRCARHJBTVAOUVLXUKYEYLA/>

WJAC: Officials: Blair County auto shop destroyed in New Year's morning fire

<https://wjactv.com/newsletter-daily/officials-blair-county-auto-shop-destroyed-new-years-morning-fire-snyder-township-pennsylvania-investigation#>

Lancaster Farming: Own Wooded Acreage? These Woodland Stewardship Courses Could Be Beneficial

[https://www.lancasterfarming.com/farming-news/news/own-wooded-acreage-these-woodland-stewardship-courses-could-be-beneficial/article\\_78d87ba9-bdd3-5636-94e7-399c75a1330a.html](https://www.lancasterfarming.com/farming-news/news/own-wooded-acreage-these-woodland-stewardship-courses-could-be-beneficial/article_78d87ba9-bdd3-5636-94e7-399c75a1330a.html)