



In the dry West, some residents are opting for pricey units that make water out of thin air.



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SPORTS How can Penn State defeat Iowa on the road? A look at Saturday's two key matchups. **18**

CENTRE DAILY TIMES

Biden gets CEOs' backing for higher debt limit

BY LISA MASCARO, JOSH BOAK AND KEVIN FRIEDING
Associated Press
WASHINGTON
President Joe Biden enlisted top business leaders Wednesday to push for immediately suspending the federal debt limit,

saying the approaching Oct. 18 deadline creates the risk of a historic default that would be like a "meteor" that could crush the economy and financial markets.
Meanwhile, according to CNBC reports, Senate Minority Leader Mitch McConnell on

Wednesday offered a short-term suspension of the U.S. debt ceiling to avert a national default and economic crisis until Democrats are able to pass a more permanent solution before the end of the year.
"This will moot Democrats' excuses about the time crunch

they created and give the unified Democratic government more than enough time to pass standalone debt limit legislation through reconciliation," McConnell, a Republican from Kentucky, posted on Twitter.
At a White House event, the president shamed Republican

senators for threatening to filibuster any suspension of the \$28.4 trillion cap on the government's borrowing authority. He leaned into the credibility of corporate America—a group that has traditionally been aligned with the GOP on tax and regulatory issues—to drive home his point as the heads of Citigroup, JP Morgan Chase and Nasdaq gathered in person and virtually to say the debt limit must be lifted.
"It's not right and it's dangerous," Biden said of the resistance by Senate Republicans. **50**
SEE BIDEN, 8A



Artist Ann Tarantino and volunteers gather to work on her new mural, "Color Block."

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Volunteer effort brings 'Color Block' mural to life

An effort to beautify Sidney Friedman Park in State College got underway Wednesday with volunteer painters helping artist Ann Tarantino's vision for "Color Block" come to life. The State College Borough, in collaboration with the Woskob

Family Gallery, commissioned the large-scale mural and sought public input to pick the design. More volunteers may be needed next week to complete the piece. Visit www.statecollegepa.us/communityart for updates and to sign up.



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Volunteer Alexa Di Pietrantonio laughs as she helps paint a red section of the new mural in Sidney Friedman Park.



Volunteer Dan Trew helps paint the new mural.

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Ferguson Township opposes audit of state's 2020 election

BY HALIE KINES
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The Ferguson Township Supervisors took action to unanimously oppose the "forensic audit" of the 2020 Pennsylvania election during its meeting Monday.
Supervisor Steve Miller introduced the resolution, which is similar to what State College Borough adopted in September. He said the audit is an "unnecessary action" and is "counterproductive."
Senate President Pro Tempore Jake Corman, R-Benner Township, announced last month that he wants to issue subpoenas for information and testimony from top state election officials and the state's voter registration system. In mid-September, the Republican-controlled committee overseeing the audit held a party-line vote to issue the subpoenas. It included the names of who voted in last year's presidential election, their birth date, address, driver's license number and the last four digits of their Social Security number.
Miller said the resolution was an opportunity for the township to stand in opposition of the audit.
"In my opinion, it's a repeat of the force that we saw in Arizona... despite the fact there's really nothing to indicate there was any problem with the 2020 election," Miller said.
He said financial advisors tell people to keep identifying information, such as your driver's license and social security numbers, private. Both of those are at least partially included in the subpoena.
"My opinion is if there's any

SEE ELECTION, 4A

Cold cases in Centre County, Pennsylvania include Ray Gricar

BY BRET PALLOTTO
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Tuesday's arrest of a man accused in the 1995 rape of a Penn State senior offered a reminder that unsolved myster-

ies from bygone decades are rarely forgotten.
Sometimes an unsolved case can be cracked with one new conversation, while other cases can be pieced together because of advances in technology.
A South Carolina man was

charged in February in the 2016 homicide of Pine Grove Mills woman Jean Tuggy. Christopher Kowalski, a former co-worker of Tuggy's, was charged with one count of criminal homicide. His case is pending.
Centre County has more than

a handful of prominent cases that remain unsolved. Here's a look at some that have captured the county's interest for decades.

BETSY AARDSMA, FATALLY STABBED IN 1969

It's been more than a half-century since Aardsma, 22, was killed the day after Thanksgiving inside Penn State's Pattee Library.

SEE COLD CASES, 4A



MATT HOUDEPP/AP

Pennsylvania Senate Majority Leader Jake Corman, R-Benner Township, has pushed for the "election integrity" audit, which includes issuing subpoenas for election information.



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