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LA Officials Make Progress On Fire Containment, But Six Blazes Continue To Burn



By James Buttler

LA California - This is a recap as of 1/13/2024 of the devastating fires in LA.

Here's the latest on the situation in southern California:

At least 11 people have been killed as a result of the fires, according to the LA County Medical Examiner

There are at least six fires currently burning according to state authority Cal Fire, with the Palisades fire - the largest, spanning more than 21,500 acres - is now 8% contained

The Eaton fire is still burning more than 14,000 acres and is 3% contained. It has destroyed close to 1,000 structures

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Taking the Oath of Office to Serve You

By Rep. Ann Flood

I was honored and excited to join my fellow lawmakers tomorrow, Tuesday, Jan. 7, as we collectively take the oath of office for the 2025-26 Legislative Session. We have so much work to do, and I am humbled by the opportunity to serve and be your voice at the state Capitol. I was also joined with my daughter Ella Flood.

As outlined in the Pennsylvania Constitution, newly elected and re-elected members take the following oath: "I do solemnly swear (or affirm) that I will support, obey and defend the Constitution of the United States and the Constitution of this Commonwealth and that I will discharge the duties of my office with fidelity."

If you'd like to watch the ceremony, it will stream at PAHouseGOP.com.

To keep up to date with all the latest news from the Capitol and here at home, be sure to follow me on Facebook and watch for my weekly email updates.

Also, all voting sessions of the House, as well as committee meetings, are streamed live at PAHouseGOP.com.



L-R Ella Flood (9Ann's daughter), Rep. Ann Flood

Lehigh wins 4-H State Potato Grading Competition



The winning A Team from Lehigh County at the 2025 4-H Potato Grading and Identification Contest. L to R: Melody Wright State 4-H Council Member, Trevor Bowman, Miranda Brown, Emma Olmstead, Parker Haydt, Allison Emanuel State 4-H Council Member, from Lehigh County.

By Kelly M. Weisner, Extension Educator, 4-H/Youth Development

PA. FARM SHOW HARRISBURG - The 2025 4-H Potato Grading and Identification Contest was held at the Pennsylvania Farm Show on January 7, 2025. One hundred sixty-eight 4-H members participated in this exciting contest. 4-H youth from Armstrong, Berks, Bucks, Bradford, Carbon, Delaware, Indiana, Lebanon, Lehigh, Montgomery, Montour, Northampton, Potter, Schuylkill, Union, and York Counties all tested their knowledge of spuds.

The contest is comprised of two divisions: basic and honors. Those who compete in the honors division are winners from previous years. The competitors in the basic division must test their skills at three stations. The first station is a "potato grading" station. The station is a timed event where competitors challenge to see who can grade 100 potatoes in the shortest time. Not only is quickness important, but so is accuracy. The second station is a "defect station" where competitors must accurately identify 20 different defects on 40 potatoes. The third station is a "plate" grading station. Five potatoes are put on each of four plates. Each plate must be evaluated on uniformity of size and shape and lack of defects

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