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Pennsylvania NewsMedia Association turns 100 years old

*The storied news media organization celebrates a century of service to print and digital journalism in Pennsylvania.*

**HARRISBURG, Pa., (Aug. 6, 2025)** – The Pennsylvania NewsMedia Association, the official trade association for print and digital news outlets in the commonwealth, commemorates its 100th anniversary on Sunday, Aug. 10.

PNA was formed in 1925 when publishers and editors from three separate newspaper associations met in Harrisburg to discuss a potential merger. According to an excerpt from the minutes of that first meeting, executives from the Pennsylvania Associated Dailies, Pennsylvania Weekly Newspaper Association and the Pennsylvania State Editorial Association agreed to consolidate under a new moniker, the Pennsylvania Newspaper Publishers' Association. Six months later, on Aug. 10, 1925, PNPA received its charter from the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

PNPA established a mission to advance the business interests of Pennsylvania newspaper organizations and to promote a free and independent press. Over the years, the company has expanded its operations to advance its primary causes. In 1952, PNPA formed MANSI Media, a wholly owned, for-profit subsidiary providing advertising placement services to newspapers across the commonwealth. Fourteen years later, the PNPA Foundation was organized and received its charter in 1968 with the aim to providing training and resources for its members. Both organizations continue operations today.

The company was renamed the Pennsylvania Newspaper Association in 1998 to reflect the changing corporate structures and participants within the association. In 2012, the company rebranded again to its current name, Pennsylvania NewsMedia Association, to better represent its members in the evolving media landscape.

In the last 100 years, PNA has been led by ten association presidents and 98 board of director presidents, moved its headquarters four times and employed countless staff in membership, sales, marketing, legal and printing operations. Today, the organization represents a variety of media outlets dedicated to providing journalism to communities across the commonwealth, including dailies, weeklies, monthlies, college newspapers and digital news sites.

PNA President & CEO William Cotter says the milestone anniversary is an opportunity to celebrate the past while focusing on the future of journalism. "As we honor the past, it is equally important to look toward the future," Cotter said. "Our 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary marks not only a celebration of past PNA accomplishments but also is a reminder of the important work that lies

ahead in support of our 200+ members across the commonwealth. We must continue to innovate, adapt, and evolve to thrive as an association in an ever-changing media landscape.”

Jennifer Bertetto, president & CEO of Trib Total Media and PNA executive committee chairperson, praised the dedication to journalism of past and present members. “For a hundred years, the Pennsylvania NewsMedia Association hasn't just been reporting history; we've been helping to write it.” Bertetto continued, “this centennial celebration is a powerful reminder of every deadline met, every truth uncovered, and every community informed through the dedication of our members, even as the landscape for journalism continues to evolve and present new challenges. It’s a testament to the enduring power of a free press and the essential role we play in the unfolding story of Pennsylvania. What an incredible journey it’s been, and we're more committed than ever to the chapters ahead.”

The Philadelphia Inquirer Publisher and CEO Lisa Hughes offered PNA well wishes and shared her thoughts on the enduring partnership between the two media organizations. “As The Philadelphia Inquirer approaches its 200th year in operation, we congratulate the Pennsylvania NewsMedia Association for its century of service to journalism across the commonwealth,” she said. “For generations, PNA has supported the vital work of local news, from advocating for press freedom to building community among publishers. As the largest news organization in Pennsylvania, we’re proud to be part of that legacy and to continue working together to ensure a strong, sustainable future for journalism.”

Tracey DeAngelo, vice president of news publishing for Block Communications, owner of the Pittsburgh Post-Gazette, issued a statement to celebrate the occasion. “For a century, the Pennsylvania NewsMedia Association has brought news organizations together—advocating for the press, navigating change, and supporting the people doing the work,” she said. “At the Pittsburgh Post-Gazette, we’ve seen the value of that leadership and community. Even 100 years in, PNA still feels personal—a shared history and a steady presence for those committed to local journalism in Pennsylvania.”

PNA will conclude its 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration with a gala on Thursday, Nov. 13, 2025, at the Hershey Country Club.

#### About PNA:

PNA, founded in 1925, is the nonprofit trade association for print and digital news media in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. Its mission is to advance the business interests of Pennsylvania news media organizations and to promote a free and independent press. Membership includes newspapers and media-related companies, as well as college newspapers and online publications.

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