

UNCAPPED POTENTIAL CABLE ACADEMY 2017

April 19 & 20
Kalahari Resort in the Poconos

BCAP's 29th annual Cable Academy heads to the Poconos to highlight the direction our industry must embrace to prosper during the most competitive environment in its history. Cable Academy 2017 will showcase the "Uncapped Potential" that exists today, and how it can further expand in the near future.

- *Speed Networking for Programmers*
- *BCAP President's Award presentation*
- *100,000 square foot indoor waterpark*

CONFIRM YOUR SPONSORSHIP, REGISTRATION AND EXHIBIT TODAY!

RESERVE YOUR ROOM AT KALAHARI RESORTS HERE...USE GROUP BOOKING ID# 1597

CUTOFF DATE FOR GROUP RATE IS MARCH 18

BCAP
60th Anniversary

NewsClips

February 3,
2017

Washington Post
This simple change in government policy could mean a lot more transparency

Nashville Tennessean
Dickson Electric manager: Could partner with broadband provider under TN governor's plan

Reuters
U.S. technology startups panic over

They control the presidency, Congress, and more than two-thirds of all legislative chambers in the country. They have a veto-proof majority in the Pennsylvania Senate, they control the House, and they believe the governorship is within reach in two years. Now, Republicans have their eye on the one piece of real estate where GOP domination has been on the wane: Philadelphia and its suburbs.

As party officials gather this weekend to pick a new state leader, they are doing so with the sense that they must reconquer the most populous region of Pennsylvania. It is essential, they say, if the GOP hopes to keep — and expand — its power in the years to come.

Republicans are worried that President Trump's extraordinary popularity and populist candidacy will not be replicated by more conventional GOP candidates for statewide office. That is why the Southeast, where Trump did not win, must be bulked up. Whoever wins the vote Saturday in Hershey for state party chairman — two southeastern Republicans are vying to replace outgoing Rob Gleason of central Pennsylvania — must reverse the weakening of political muscle, they believe.

"The Republican Party is getting stronger and stronger all around the state except for the collar counties and the city of Philadelphia," said Gleason, whose 10-year reign coincided with a surge of Republican voter growth and ascension of legislative leaders from central and southwestern Pennsylvania. "The next chairman's going to have to deal with that." It might seem to some that the party would have no such worries. Pennsylvania last year flipped red in a presidential election for the first time in 28 years. But the fine print has some worried.

But that enthusiasm did not translate as much for other statewide Republican candidates. That suggests the Southeast needs to become more of an engine for future candidates to win statewide. Without the Southeast delivering high vote totals, "for a Republican to win in Pennsylvania, you have to really squeeze a lot of votes out of Westmoreland, Fayette, Washington — the western counties," said Westmoreland County GOP chief Michael Korn, whose Pittsburgh-area suburb

[immigration ban](#)

[Politico Silicon Valley leaders organizing against Trump](#)

[Allentown Morning Call Pa. Gov. Wolf hires adviser for ideas on saving money](#)

[pennlive.com Gov. Wolf, lawmakers should take these steps toward a budget 'that works'](#)

[Allentown Morning Call Op-ed from Rep. Greg Vitali \(D-Delaware\): New state House rules a step backward for open government](#)

[pennlive.com Op-ed from House Speaker Mike Turzai \(R-Allegheny\): Wanted - A better way to pass the Pa. budget](#)

delivered big for Trump and has steadily converted from Democratic to Republican over the last decade or so.



Korns is worried because fewer Trump voters in his county supported statewide [GOP candidates for attorney general, auditor general, and treasurer](#). In Southeastern Pennsylvania, the row-office candidates didn't sweep a single county. Democrats ended up winning all three posts. The men [vying to lead the state GOP](#) — Chester County party Chairman and attorney Valentino “Val” F. DiGiorgio III, and Philadelphia lawyer Lawrence J. Tabas — don't dispute the region's loss of clout. But in interviews, they were short on details about what they planned to do about it.

Tabas is closely aligned with a state party faction that came out early to support Trump's presidential bid. DiGiorgio is a public finance attorney with strong ties to the state's establishment Republicans. He has the backing of U.S. Sen. Pat Toomey and legislative leaders in

OUR RED CARPET TREATMENT GETS BUSINESSES NOTICED.

Comcast Spotlight makes it easy for advertisers to be seen on the shows and screens people use the most. We partner with our advertisers to provide extraordinary, full-circle sales, marketing and research support.

▶ Visit us at ComcastSpotlight.com or call (610) 350-2720 for more information.

Comcast Spotlight is a registered trademark of Comcast Corporation.

**COMCAST
SPOTLIGHT**
SUCCEED ON SCREEN

Harrisburg. DiGiorgio downplayed the notion of party weakness, boasting that the GOP controls many state and federal seats in Southeastern Pennsylvania. But the power dynamic is different than a generation ago, when Republicans from Philadelphia and its then-GOP-controlled suburbs led much of the state party's agenda.

“You had a handful of eight men making the decisions for the Republican Party, five of whom came from the Southeast, which was by far the wealthiest part of the state,” said DiGiorgio, who grew up in South Philadelphia. “There was this ‘Oh, those guys down in Philly’ kind of thing. The echoes of that still exist.” In Chester County, the only southeastern county where the GOP still holds a registration edge, [Democrat Hillary Clinton defeated Trump by more than 25,000 votes](#) — her largest margin in the four suburbs of Philadelphia. Trump also lost in former GOP strongholds Bucks, Delaware, and Montgomery Counties as well as in Philadelphia.

DiGiorgio said Trump did not tailor his working-class campaign message to the affluent moderates who make Chester County the highest-income county in Pennsylvania. But if Trump delivers policies that make sense for conservatives, he'll win the county in four years "with Reagan-like numbers," DiGiorgio said.

Tabas worked alongside Gleason as the chairman retooled the state party to better win presidential races, a focus that stirred criticism in some corners of the party. Republicans in November 2015 lost control of the state Supreme Court, whose justices hold 10-year terms and have considerable sway over legislative redistricting battles.

Gleason and the Republican National Committee, however, found a fertile new constituency in the presidential race: disaffected Democrats, **many of them far from Philadelphia**. "This last election, it's true that large parts of our victory came from other areas other than the Southeast," said Tabas, partner at the Center City law firm Obermayer, Rebmann Maxwell & Hippell. "Our winning strategy is everywhere," Tabas added. "I'm going to be working in every single region."

In Montgomery County, years of GOP infighting have fractured the party. Democrats seized the voter registration edge there a decade ago and now control county government. And so GOP Sen. John Rafferty Jr. failed to carry his home county last year in the state attorney general's race against popular local Democrat Josh Shapiro. Two weeks before Election Day, Shapiro had nearly \$1.2 million in available campaign cash, Rafferty just \$167,000. "The people who run the [county] organizations, that's their responsibility," Gleason said. "You're the responsible person when you're the chairman."

Montgomery County Chairman William E. Donnelly, who has been in the job for only a year, dismissed Gleason's harsh assessment. "We have more state representatives than any other portion of the state," Donnelly said. "We're a little beat up down here right now but ... we have been supportive of Republican candidates for the whole state for many, many years when the other part of the state would let us down."

Republicans still control county government in Bucks, Chester and Delaware Counties. Meanwhile, beyond the region, GOP power has surged. Leaders of the legislature are from central and Western Pennsylvania; and the **heavy-hitting GOP newcomer who recently launched a gubernatorial bid**, Sen. Scott Wagner, is a businessman from York County. He believes he can defeat Democratic Gov. Wolf regardless of the party apparatus in the Southeast. "I have a lot more friends in the Southeast than people really know," Wagner said. "I have friends in Bucks County, I have friends in Montgomery County, in Chester and Delaware."

Philadelphia party Chairman Joseph J. DeFelice sees opportunity for the GOP and says the time is right to make inroads. For the year that DeFelice has been in charge, the party increased voter registration by more than 13,000, secured a higher GOP vote margin for president compared with 2012, and raised money from the Philadelphia business community, he said. All while Democrats retained an 8-1 voter edge. "We had a street operation," DeFelice said of the last election. "We had campaign offices in North Philly, Northwest Philly, the river wards, South Philadelphia and the Northeast."

He said he believes people are starting to embrace the GOP as an alternative to decades of Democratic control. "Anything that's gone wrong in the city, you can point to the Democratic Party," he said, "and I think that's starting to resonate with people." – **Philadelphia Inquirer, which also reports on Dems seeking to harness Trump rage in suburban Philly**

Sacramento-area DirecTV technicians **continued to strike** for a fourth day Thursday in solidarity with a colleague they believe was unfairly fired. The roughly 130 workers who install and maintain satellite dishes between Fairfield and Lake Tahoe faced a new hurdle Thursday: They could no longer enter the McClellan DirecTV office to use the restroom, said Mike Felmann, a DirecTV employee.

Felmann also serves as the vice president of the Communication Workers for America Union Local 9421. "I'm a little irritated about what they are trying to do," he said. "They are obviously trying to make it as difficult as they can."

The workers began the strike Monday in front of the DirecTV office in McClellan Business Park after technician Anthony Estrada was fired from the company. Estrada said he was fired for losing a \$300 meter used by installation technicians to aim satellite dishes in the right direction while he was at a commercial job site. Both Estrada and Felmann said firing was too severe a move by the company. Neither of them have heard of an employee being fired for losing a tool or a meter in the past, they said.

AT&T spokesman Marty Richter said in an email that the company took the proper steps in firing Estrada and argued that it looked at the entirety of his work history instead of an isolated incident. AT&T

and DirecTV completed a merger in 2015. When asked about keeping employees out of the McClellan facility, he said the company was “following our normal process when employees are not working.”

Felmann said technicians on strike were also being told that they had to be clocked into work to submit requests for time off. Richter again said the company was following procedure and recommended that employees with urgent needs contact a supervisor. Felmann has not been able to meet with local management to negotiate Estrada’s return to work, he said. “The guys want to work,” Felmann said. “They will return to work as soon as they agree to that or something similar.” – **Sacramento (CA) Bee**

Philadelphia mayor Jim Kenney still **loves** Race Street Café for an evening meal in Old City. But he apparently prefers a racier establishment when he manages to bust out of Philly for a couple of days. Preferably a chain restaurant with large-breasted waitresses. And an Eagles game on TV.

Yes, we’re talking about Hooters.

In addition to all the money Kenney’s campaign committee spent on **legal fees and ball games**, Clout couldn’t help but notice \$265 the campaign expensed at the Hooters in Miami in October. At first, we figured Kenney staffers might have run up the tab while downing a few Miller Lites and chatting up the Hooters girls. Once you have one of those wings, it’s hard to stop.

But, nay. Kenney flack Marty O’Rourke confirmed Thursday that the mayor himself selected the destination while attending a **tech conference**. He wasn’t there to ogle women’s breasts, according to O’Rourke’s explanation. “The mayor was in Miami,” said O’Rourke, who earned every dollar of his multiple consulting contracts this week. “He was at the CityLab tech conference, and the Eagles were playing that day.”

You see, Kenney just wanted to keep abreast of developments in the game. “He scoured the whole place to see where he could watch the Eagles,” O’Rourke continued, “and the only place that had the Eagles playing was Hooters.” Scoured. Riiiiight. Hey, **they don’t call him “Jimmy from the Block” for nothing**. – **Philadelphia Daily News**



127 State Street, Harrisburg, PA 17101
717.214.2000 • bcaps.com

**First in Broadband.
The Future of Broadband.®**