

State Representative

76th Legislative District



# Mike Hanna

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**WINTER 2014**

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## Higher education deserves better from Corbett

As a member of the board of governors for the Pennsylvania State System of Higher Education, I am well aware of the impacts that state funding cuts implemented in 2011 by Gov. Tom Corbett have had on our state-owned colleges, including Lock Haven.

I can assure you that the PASSHE board, on which I serve, takes great care in crafting a spending plan that will minimize any financial impact on Pennsylvania's college students and their families. But we can't do it alone. In order to keep tuition in check, the state must provide adequate funding and the budgets proposed by the Corbett administration have shown that he doesn't hold higher education to be a top priority.

Since the governor's budget address on Feb. 4, we see that he continues to attack students. He

has not restored his massive cuts to colleges and universities since he took office, locking in between a 4.5 percent and 19 percent decrease in state funding. Pennsylvania now ranks third in the nation for average student debt. Yet in his proposed Fiscal Year 2014-15 budget, the governor proposes no increases for institutions of higher education. This continues to show an incredible lack of foresight by the governor into the best interests of our students, who are Pennsylvania's future.

I recently had the opportunity to sit down for a one-on-one interview with PASSHE's new Chancellor Frank Brogan. You can view the interview on my website ([www.pahouse.com/Hanna/video.asp](http://www.pahouse.com/Hanna/video.asp)) or my Facebook page ([www.facebook.com/RepHanna](http://www.facebook.com/RepHanna)).

Scan this code with your smartphone to watch my interview with PASSHE Chancellor Frank Brogan.



## Home heating aid applications available

Applications for Pennsylvania's Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program are currently being accepted.

There are two types of assistance. Cash grants help you pay your regular monthly heating bill. These grants are sent directly to your utility provider if you qualify. You may also qualify for a crisis grant, which can help pay for emergency heating equipment repairs or replacement.

Eligibility for LIHEAP is based on family size and income.

If you are eligible, my staff can help you fill out your application and submit it for **free**.

Household Size	Income Limit
1	\$17,235
2	\$23,265
3	\$29,295
4	\$35,325
5	\$41,355

*For families of six people and over, please add \$6,030 per person.*



*LHU graduate Rep. Mike Hanna takes part in the ribbon-cutting of the Lock Haven University Science Center.*

# MINIMUM WAGE INCREASE NEEDED

#RaiseTheWagePA

It's no secret that the working class continues to struggle in today's economy.

While wages remain stagnant, corporate profits are at record highs. The middle class is shrinking; but the American dream will not die.



*During a Harrisburg news conference, Rep. Mike Hanna joins colleagues and advocates calling for an increase in the state's minimum wage.*

We must give our workers the opportunities they deserve to climb the ladder of economic success. And that starts with a minimum wage that fairly compensates Pennsylvania workers.

It's about honest pay for honest work.

It's time for Pennsylvania to raise its minimum wage and make working families a priority.

For the past three years, we've seen Pennsylvania move in the wrong direction. Gov. Tom Corbett and his allies in the state legislature have been guided by the wrong priorities. They've put corporate profits ahead of Pennsylvania workers, families and taxpayers.

While Gov. Corbett has doled out more than \$1 billion in corporate tax favors over the past three years, Pennsylvania workers have seen their paychecks dwindle and their property taxes rise.

Raising the minimum wage will do what Gov. Corbett's corporate welfare agenda hasn't done – spark new life in our economy and create more jobs.

A report by the Economic Policy Institute shows that raising the minimum wage to \$10.10 would result in nearly \$2 billion in total wage increases for workers in Pennsylvania. That's nearly \$2 billion that would be immediately reinvested in the state and local economies through increased spending by these workers.

Raising the minimum wage puts more money in the pockets of working families when they need it most, boosting their spending power and our economy.

According to a new Gallup poll, more than three-quarters of Americans (76 percent) say they support raising the minimum wage.

Several states have already moved to increase their minimum wage. It's time for Pennsylvania to get on board.



*Taking part in the opening of the new Transportation Training Center at the Central Pennsylvania Institute of Science and Technology are from left – Rep. Mike Hanna; Dan Hawbaker, CEO, GOH Inc., chairman of CPI's Capital Campaign; Sen. Jake Corman; Rep. Scott Conklin; Rep. Kerry Benninghoff; Dr. Richard Makin, president, CPI; and Hank Yeagley, chairman of CPI's Joint Operating Committee.*

## Pa. Lottery must stay in state control

The Pennsylvania Lottery is an important asset to our commonwealth.

The lottery generated \$3.48 billion in sales last year with a profit slightly more than \$1 billion for programs benefiting older Pennsylvanians. The Pennsylvania Lottery also consistently has the lowest administrative costs among the top 10 lottery states. Despite the success of the Pennsylvania Lottery, last year Gov. Tom Corbett proposed privatizing the lottery's management to a foreign bidder. Fortunately, he has given up the proposal, for now.

It is my belief that the Pennsylvania Department of Revenue

can adequately manage and enhance the lottery without the need of a private management firm. Every dollar diverted to a for-profit private management company is a dollar taken from our senior programs. Any reforms proposed by the governor, such as adding keno or implementing online lottery sales, can also be done within the confines of the existing Pennsylvania Lottery structure.

With all of this in mind, please know that if Gov. Corbett resumes his scheme to privatize the lottery, I will do everything in my power to stop the proposal if it reaches a vote in the Pennsylvania House of Representatives.



# State House recognizes Clinton County's 175th birthday

The state House of Representatives unanimously adopted my resolution honoring Clinton County for its upcoming 175th birthday.

I'm proud to call Clinton County home and even prouder of all that it has to offer to people from all over the state, the country and even the world.

## Transportation plan provides safer roads, more jobs

As the House Democratic whip, I took the lead in solving the state's No. 1 public safety problem after House and Senate Republicans failed to pass a transportation package to fix Pennsylvania's crumbling roads and bridges.

I introduced a comprehensive plan based on the Transportation Funding Advisory Commission report in conjunction with a fair and reasonable severance tax on natural gas, which unfortunately, was never brought up for debate or a vote. My Democratic colleagues and I would have preferred to close massive corporate tax loopholes that allow huge corporations to avoid paying corporate income taxes in our state.

Unfortunately, Gov. Tom Corbett failed to lead a moderate, bipartisan path to a transportation funding solution. While my legislation would have used a natural gas severance tax to reduce the need for gas taxes to pay for construction, the final package instead included Gov. Tom Corbett's gas tax increase as the prime funding source.

In the end, this new transportation law will not only protect our citizens from decaying roads and bridges, but also will create more than 50,000 construction jobs across the commonwealth. Those jobs will raise millions of dollars in new income tax revenue that will help stave off tax hikes on working families.

Please know that I fought for a better way, a fairer way, but the majority party refused at every turn. In the end, I chose to put the interests of Pennsylvanians first.

## Commonwealth of Pennsylvania



### The House of Representatives

#### A resolution recognizing the 175th birthday of Clinton County, Pennsylvania.

**Whereas**, On June 21, 1839, Clinton County was created from parts of Centre and Lycoming Counties, and the county seat is Lock Haven; and

**Whereas**, It was first named Eagle County; and

**Whereas**, Later, it was named in honor of the seventh Governor of New York State, DeWitt Clinton; and

**Whereas**, Clinton County is at the heart of the Pennsylvania Wilds located along the Susquehanna River; and

**Whereas**, Piper Aircraft was one of the area's largest employers and the Piper Museum remains one of the largest attractions with an annual fly-in; and

**Whereas**, The area is proud of its foliage and celebrates nature and the beautiful fall colors at the Flaming Foliage Festival; and

**Whereas**, The Megatransect is a hike and trail run in excess of 26 miles through the county that has grown to one of the largest trail events in the United States; and

**Whereas**, For 43 years the Jaycees have sponsored a Regatta on Labor Day weekend to close out the summer, and racers from the American Powerboat Association come from all over the world to participate in the largest boat race of its kind on the east coast; and

**Whereas**, Since 1972 the Clinton County Fair has given the residents a place to showcase and enjoy 4-H and agricultural exhibits; and

**Whereas**, It is home to one of our 14 State universities, Lock Haven University, educating and preparing students for the future; and

**Whereas**, Clinton County is the home of the Keystone Mid-Atlantic champions of the 2011 Little League World Series; therefore be it

**Resolved**, That the House of Representatives recognize and congratulate Clinton County on its 175th birthday; and be it further

**Resolved**, That a copy of this resolution be transmitted to the Clinton County Board of Commissioners.



**Rep. Mike Hanna presents Clinton County Commissioners Joel Long, Jeff Snyder and Pete Smeltz with a House of Representatives resolution recognizing the 175th birthday of Clinton County.**

# Senior Matters

## Aware, avoid, alert: Don't become a victim of a scam

Pennsylvania has the third-highest percentage of senior citizens in the country, with nearly 2 million people 65 or older. Senior citizens are favored targets for consumer fraud, such as identity theft, charities, telemarketing and sweepstakes fraud.

The Pennsylvania Attorney General Elder Abuse Unit has a hotline to report the abuse, neglect, financial exploitation or victimization of older Pennsylvanians. The hotline is 1-866-623-2137.

The Attorney General's Office believes that each of us has a role to play in preventing elder abuse and recommends the following tips for family members or caregivers to identify elder abuse:

- Be attentive to an elderly person's physical well-being. Look for any abrasions, bruises, fractures, burns or any other injury – these may be signs of physical abuse.
- Look for signs of psychological abuse such as threats, intimidation or humiliation. Signs may include low self-esteem, withdrawal, extreme changes in mood, suicidal behavior, confusion or disorientation.
- Be watchful of signs of neglect, such as poor hygiene, malnutrition, improper medication, or soiled clothing.
- Look for an unusual or large bank account withdrawal. This may be a sign that someone is exploiting the elderly person's financial resources.
- Keep an eye out for the common signs that they may be falling prey to a scam, such as frequent calls from telemarketers, shoddy home improvement work, numerous product purchases or ongoing charitable or religious donations. The loss of what may seem a minimal amount of money to someone with an average income may result in an elderly person having to go without food, medication or possibly his or her home.
- Talk about their daily activities and contacts to ensure that nothing unusual is occurring or being concealed.

## Don't forget your senior discount!

Retail stores and restaurants aren't the only places offering valuable discounts to seniors these days!

The commonwealth provides discounts to seniors for a variety of state services. Here are just a few that you should take advantage of:

### Hunting and fishing licenses

Some of the best experiences our state has to offer happen in the great outdoors. The state Fish and Boat and state Game commissions make it a little easier on the wallet for seniors to fish and hunt.

People 65 and older may purchase yearly hunting and fishing licenses at reduced rates of \$13.70 for a hunting license and \$11.70 for a fishing license. Lifetime licenses are also available at \$51.70 for hunting or fishing.

You can find more information on how to purchase a fishing license online, the latest stocking guides, fishing information by your region and much more, by visiting the Fish and Boat Commission's website at [www.fish.state.pa.us](http://www.fish.state.pa.us). Game news, state game lands maps, and other helpful resources are also available on the Pennsylvania Game Commission's website, [www.pgc.state.pa.us](http://www.pgc.state.pa.us).

### Pennsylvania state parks

Do you enjoy getting away in the great outdoors? Looking for something fun to do with the grandkids? Pennsylvania has 117 state parks that are considered the best in the nation and many include electric sites and modern bathhouses in their campgrounds.

People 62 and older are eligible for a \$4.50 discount off the normal campsite price. You can find your closest state park, prices, and other frequently asked questions, as well as make a reservation at [www.dcnr.state.pa.us](http://www.dcnr.state.pa.us). Reservations can also be made by calling 1-888-PA-PARKS.



*Rep. Mike Hanna at the new Clinton County veterans affairs office with, from left – Bill Bechdel and County Commissioner Joel Long.*

# Sportsmen Update

## New law encourages landowners to open property to hunters

A recently enacted state law, Act 83, shields landowners from criminal liability for unlawful acts committed by people who were granted permission to hunt on their property.

Most hunting in Pennsylvania is done on private property, and this law encourages farmers and landowners to keep their property open to hunters. This is a positive step because hunting is an important part of our heritage and state economy.

Landowners who willfully aid, abet, assist, or conspire in an unlawful act on their property would not be protected from prosecution under the new law.

The legislation was a top priority of the Pennsylvania Farm Bureau and I was proud to vote for it.

### Hunting and our economy

- Nearly 1 million people hunt in Pennsylvania each year.
- 18.2 million days are spent hunting in Pennsylvania.
- Hunters support over 15,000 jobs in Pennsylvania.
- Hunting generates \$529 million in salaries and wages.
- Hunters in Pennsylvania spend \$986 million annually.
- The average Pennsylvania hunter spends \$1,260 each year.
- Hunters generate \$121 million in state and local taxes.
- The total ripple effect from hunting in Pennsylvania is \$1.6 BILLION.



## Text messages aid study of deer movements

During the two-week firearms hunting season for deer, Pennsylvania Game Commission researchers tracked some white tails using GPS collars that were controlled by text messages.

The collars were placed on deer in Bald Eagle State Forest in Centre, Union and Snyder counties; Rothrock State Forest in Centre, Mifflin and Huntingdon counties; and Susquehannock State Forest in Potter County.

Short text messages were sent from the collar to researchers to record the location of the deer. The new texting collars provide details not possible with traditional radio collars.

Researchers hope to learn more about deer movements and behavior, particularly during hunting season, and make recommendations to increase, decrease or hold steady deer populations in different areas throughout the commonwealth.

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## Mentored Youth Fishing Day program to expand

The Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission will expand the Mentored Youth Fishing Day program statewide in 2014.

The program was launched last year on the Saturday before the regional opening day of trout season. More than 3,700 adult anglers registered 5,110 kids.

The first Mentored Youth Fishing Day of the 2014 fishing season will be held on 11 waters on March 22, which is the Saturday before the regional opening day of trout season in 18 southcentral and southeast counties.

The second Mentored Youth Fishing Day will be held on 29 waters on April 5, the weekend before the traditional opening day of trout season.

To participate in the program, anglers 16 or older must possess a valid fishing license and trout/salmon permit and be accompanied by a youth. Youth anglers must obtain a free Fish and Boat Commission-issued permit, which will be available beginning Feb. 1 at [www.GoneFishingPA.com](http://www.GoneFishingPA.com) or at any of the more than 900 licensing agents across the state.

For more information about the Mentored Youth program, visit [www.GoneFishingPA.com](http://www.GoneFishingPA.com).



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## Teen Drug, Alcohol and Tobacco Awareness Event planned

On April 3, I will be hosting a Mountaintop Community Drug, Alcohol and Tobacco Awareness Event.

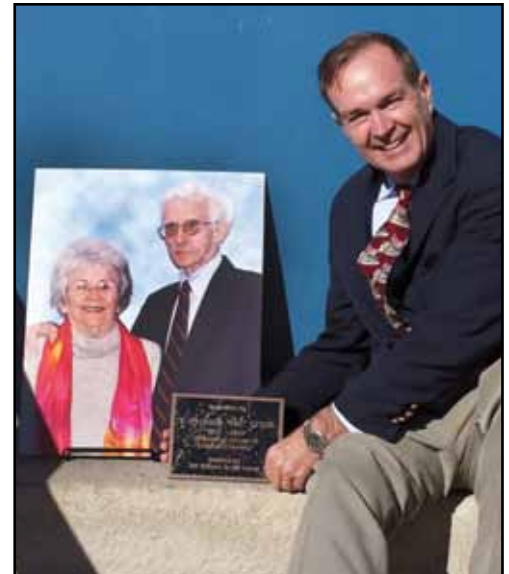
The goal of the event is to provide resources, information and education to area residents to help combat the growing problem of teen abuse and addiction of dangerous drugs, alcohol and tobacco.

The FREE event is for concerned adults and young people.

The event will consist of brief presentations from experts in the field offering their insight and a question-and-answer forum. In addition, many of the presenters will have tables with brochures and helpful information that will be available before and after the public meeting, also giving time for private discussion.

Doors will open at 6 p.m. and presentations will begin at 6:30 p.m. at the Moshannon Community Center; 1351 West Sycamore Road; Moshannon, PA.

If you have any questions, please call my Milesburg District Office at 814-353-8780.



*Rep. Mike Hanna at the Tyson memorial dedication in Beech Creek.*



*Rep. Mike Hanna and Ralph Ferrerar at the Avis American Legion plaque and memorial park dedication to Bruce Gordner.*



*Rep. Mike Hanna visits Clinton County's new 911 center with Director of Emergency Services Kevin Fanning.*