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Upcoming SEPTA Community Meetings to discuss High Speed Rail Line Extension

Monday, March 7
Open House: 4 p.m. – 8 p.m. | Presentation: 6 p.m.
Radisson Hotel Valley Forge • 1160 1st Ave., King of Prussia

Wednesday, March 9
Open House: 4 p.m. – 8 p.m. | Presentation: 6 p.m.
Norristown Municipal Building • 235 E. Airy St., Norristown

Tuesday, March 15
Open House: 2 p.m. – 8 p.m. | Presentation: 6 p.m.
DoubleTree Hotel Valley Forge • 301 W. DeKalb Pike, King of Prussia

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Working hard to secure a budget deal

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Some of the initiatives cited by the association were my work in the introduction of the Healthy Kids, Healthy Futures Act (requiring a minimum of 30 minutes of moderate to vigorous physical activity for every child every regular school day), as well as the passage of the Equity in Interscholastic Athletics Disclosure Law (strengthening Title IX reporting requirements for schools), and the Safety in Youth Sports Act (setting new requirements for Departments of Health and Education aimed at preventing serious head injuries in student athletes and raising awareness of how to deal with concussions). I was honored to accept the award at PSAHPERD’s State Convention.

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Norristown Farm Park

As spring approaches and the weather begins to warm, I encourage you and your family to visit the Norristown Farm Park. As a member of the Norristown Farm Park Advisory Board, I believe it is one of the most unique parks in the state park system, and it is operated and maintained by Montgomery County.

It is a working farm that has been in continuous use since colonial times. One of the last undeveloped areas in Montgomery County, the 690-acre park includes terrific outdoor amenities such as nature trails, paved trails for biking and running, picnic areas, and areas for fishing such as the Farm Pond or either of the two trout-stocked streams, Stony Creek and Kepner Creek. It is truly a magnificent combination of recreation, agriculture, and nature located in our region.

You can visit the park at 2500 Upper Farm Road, Norristown, PA 19401 or learn more information by contacting my office or visiting the county’s website at www.montcopa.org/norristownfarmpark.

Norristown Art Show

As part of my Student Art Series, I am committed to displaying outstanding artwork from local artists at my district office. As chairman of the House Arts & Culture Caucus, I strongly believe arts education should be a part of our curriculum, and I’m focused on supporting arts education to be integral to a well-rounded education.

In January, I recognized the talent of several students from Upper Merion Area High School whose artwork was displayed at my district office.

‘There Ought to Be a Law’ fifth-grade essay contest

My seventh annual “There Ought to Be a Law” fifth-grade essay contest is now open! Over the past few months, I’ve been pleased to speak with several participating classes about the role of government and the legislative process.

I look forward to reading their persuasive essays promoting laws that they feel would make their school, community or state a better place. I will announce the winner and finalists this spring. The winner will receive an official citation from the Pennsylvania House and be invited along with his or her family to spend the day with me in Harrisburg for lunch, recognition in the House chamber, and a personal guided tour of the state Capitol Building.

Keep your family warm this winter

Pennsylvania’s Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program – LIHEAP – is accepting applications, and is expected to close April 1. LIHEAP helps low-income families pay their heating bills.

LIHEAP provides two types of grants – a cash grant sent directly to utility companies to pay a portion of the resident’s fuel bill, and a crisis grant for households in immediate danger of being without heat due to a furnace failure or an unexpected fuel shortage.

LIHEAP cash grants – based on household income, family size, type of heating fuel and region – will range from $100 to $1,000 in 2015-16. LIHEAP crisis grants will range from $25 to $500.

Residents who received a LIHEAP grant last season should have received a postcard or a 2015-16 LIHEAP application with a registration number.

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PA BIO Award

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