



# STATE REPRESENTATIVE Dan Deasy

VICE CHAIRMAN, ALLEGHENY COUNTY DELEGATION

WINTER 2016

27TH LEGISLATIVE DISTRICT • [WWW.PAHOUSE.NET/DEASY](http://WWW.PAHOUSE.NET/DEASY)

## HERE TO SERVE YOU!

### WEST END

436 S. Main St., Suite 100  
Pittsburgh, PA 15220  
412-928-9514

### BEECHVIEW

Carnegie Library  
1910 Broadway Ave,  
Pittsburgh, PA 15216  
10:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.  
Mondays and Wednesdays

### CAPITOL

323 Irvis Office Building  
P.O. Box 202027  
Harrisburg, PA 17120-2027  
717-772-8187

### COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS

Gaming Oversight  
Labor & Industry  
Professional Licensure  
Tourism & Recreational  
Development

*(Democratic chairman, Subcommittee  
on Arts & Entertainment)*

Urban Affairs

*(Democratic chairman, Subcommittee  
on Cities, Counties)*

### CAUCUS MEMBERSHIPS

Animal Protection  
Early Childhood Education  
Firefighters & Emergency Services  
Multiple Sclerosis (MS)  
Pro-Life  
Veterans

### STAY INFORMED!

If you would like to be kept informed via email about what is going on in the district and in Harrisburg, go to the "Contact" menu on [www.pahouse.com/Deasy](http://www.pahouse.com/Deasy) and select "Sign Up for Emails."

## Kids' health insurance wins well-deserved extension through 2017

I wholeheartedly supported passage of House Bill 857, which was signed into law by Gov. Tom Wolf as Act 84 in December. This legislation reauthorizes and extends the life of the Children's Health Insurance Program – CHIP – until Dec. 31, 2017.

CHIP was slated to expire at the end of 2015, which would have resulted in over 150,000 children losing insurance coverage.

CHIP has offered no-cost or low-cost health care coverage for children under 18 whose parents make too much to qualify for Medicaid but cannot afford private insurance.

CHIP coverage includes routine doctor visits, prescriptions, dental appointments and eye care, along with immunizations, mental health, durable medical equipment, rehabilitation therapies, home health care and autism-related services.

Monthly premiums for the program are based on each family's income. More importantly, families enrolled in CHIP will not see any changes to their eligibility, co-payments, benefits, coverage or even their cards with passage of the new law.

Act 84 also transfers the administration of CHIP from the Department of Insurance to the Department of Human Services, which also oversees the state's Medicaid program.

The change helps coordinate coverage and is a cost-saving maneuver that will enable the state to use one information technology system to manage eligibility determination for both programs.

Please call my office at 412-928-9514 for more information on CHIP.



## No plans to close Wabash Station Post Office!

Thanks to the efforts of hundreds of area residents, I have been informed by the U.S. Postal Service that there are no plans to close or further reduce the hours of operation at the Wabash Station post office branch.

I launched a petition drive in August to save the West End facility, noting it is a crucial community link not only for the community's many older residents but also for its continuing revitalization efforts.

The postal service seems to have taken the message to heart, assuring me in writing that there are no plans currently to

close or further reduce the hours of operation.

As I have said repeatedly, the neighborhood needs this facility as it forges a new future.

Since the petition effort was launched, I have received reports that the branch has been a beehive of activity and commerce.

Thank you everyone for your efforts to stand up for the Wabash Station post office branch.



# Around the District ...

## BROOKLINE



State Reps. Harry Readshaw and Dan Miller and state Sen. Wayne Fontana joined Rep. Deasy at an energetic town hall meeting at St. Mark's Evangelical Lutheran Church. Brookline residents provided valuable input on a number of state and local issues at the town hall.

## MT. WASHINGTON

Rep. Deasy recently visited the Mt. Washington Senior Center to discuss state programs and services with center attendees.



## WEST END



Rep. Deasy sponsored his Seventh Annual Senior Citizen Health Expo at the Guardian Angels Church Hall in the West End in October, and the event was a resounding success. The free event featured free health screenings, a variety of information on local and state programs and services available to older Pennsylvanians, entertainment and door prizes! Rep. Deasy's Eighth Annual Senior Citizen Health Expo will be held in October. Please call 412-928-9514 this fall for details or check the website at [www.pahouse.com/Deasy](http://www.pahouse.com/Deasy) for calendar items.



Rep. Deasy recently met with City of Pittsburgh Director of Public Works Mike Gable to tour the West End to press for solutions to water runoff problems plaguing the area. City officials indicated that plans to resolve the issues are evolving.

## MCKEES ROCKS



Rep. Deasy met with Mayor Jack Muhr to discuss issues affecting the community.

## INGRAM



Rep. Deasy and members of the Ingram Volunteer Fire Department gathered during the Child Safety Day they sponsored in October at Ingram Park. The event featured fire truck tours; a food drive; safety information concerning fire, car seats and bicycles; and state information on the Children's Health Insurance and Tuition Account programs.

## CRAFTON



Rep. Deasy recently presented Mary Tremblay with a citation from the state House of Representatives in recognition of and congratulations upon her retirement from Crafton Borough. Mary worked in various capacities at the borough for over 28 years! Best wishes, Mary!



## Limited notary service available for free at my office

Please be aware that my office at 436 S. Main St., Pittsburgh, can notarize documents needed for local, state or federal programs for free.

This includes PennDOT applications for a handicapped parking placard or plate, or a duplicate title. We can also notarize applications for unclaimed property.

Please call the office at 412-928-9514 with any questions. No matter where you get documents notarized, please remember not to sign any forms until you are in front of the notary and bring a valid photo identification card.



## GREEN TREE

Green Tree Library recently received the American Star Library designation from the Library Journal. Rep. Deasy presented a citation from the state House of Representatives to Adaena Tray, library director, and Shannon Barron, assistant director.

## BEECHVIEW



Rep. Deasy visits with Audrey Iacone at the Beechview Library. Deasy holds satellite office hours at the library from 1030 a.m. – 2:30 p.m. on Mondays and Wednesdays.

# FREE help available with Property Tax/Rent Rebate Program

My office has received current Property Tax/Rent Rebate Program applications from the state Department of Revenue – and my staff is ready to assist!

The rebate program benefits eligible Pennsylvanians 65 or older, widows and widowers 50 or older, and people with disabilities 18 or older.

Claimants must reapply for rebates every year because rebates are based on annual income and property taxes or rent paid annually.

Please take note of two changes to the program that I supported:

- Social Security cost-of-living adjustments will no longer disqualify those applying for a rebate; and
- Claims filed on behalf of claimants who lived at least one day during the claim year and meet all other eligibility criteria will be paid.

The oft-extended deadline to apply for a rebate on property taxes or rent paid in 2015 is June 30, 2016, and rebates

normally are distributed beginning July 1. So, the sooner you file, the sooner you will receive your money!

**Please ignore offers to assist with filing the application for a fee. My office offers help at no charge, and the Revenue Department does not charge a fee to process your application.**

You can visit or call my office at 436 S. Main St., Pittsburgh. It is open from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday. The phone number is 412-928-9514.



**In 2015, my staff completed over 500 property tax/rent rebate applications for my constituents. Their efforts put \$237,211 back in the hands of these applicants!**

## Beware of IRS scams in our area

Please be aware that fraud artists are still peppering area residents with a phone and email scam in which imposters claim to be from the Internal Revenue Service and ask for personal financial information.

Please be aware that the IRS will **NOT** initiate first contact with you about taxes owed through a phone call or email.

Always be wary of unsolicited phone calls in which an individual claims to be representing a business or government entity and aggressively demands payment. The IRS will always send official correspondence through the mail to make its first contact with you.

### Additionally, it is important for you to know that the IRS:

- Never asks for credit card, debit card or prepaid card information over the telephone.
- Never insists that taxpayers use a specific payment method to pay tax obligations.
- Never requests immediate payment over the telephone and will not take enforcement action immediately after a phone conversation.

### Other characteristics of these scams include:

- Scammers use fake names and IRS badge numbers. They generally use common names and surnames to identify themselves.
- Scammers may be able to recite the last four digits of a victim's Social Security number.
- Scammers spoof the IRS toll-free number on caller ID to make it appear that it's the IRS calling.
- Scammers sometimes send bogus IRS emails to some victims to support their bogus calls.
- Victims hear background noise of other calls being conducted to mimic a call site.

**If you feel you have been targeted by this scam, please call the Treasury Inspector General for Tax Administration at 1-800-366-4484.**

Complaints also may be filed with the Federal Trade Commission through the website, [www.ftccomplaintassistant.gov](http://www.ftccomplaintassistant.gov).

You can also get more information and report scams to the state Office of Attorney General's Bureau of Consumer Protection at 1-800-441-2555.





**STATE REP. DAN DEASY**

P.O. Box 202027  
Harrisburg, PA 17120-2027

**Look inside for information:**

Good news on Wabash Station Post Office

IRS phone, email scams

Free help with Property Tax/Rent Rebate Program

lpo • kaf • 0216



**SUNDAY, MAY 1**

7 a.m.

**Pittsburgh Marathon Celebration**

Rep. Deasy is partnering with Pittsburgh Musical Theater to co-host the Official Spectator Zone celebration in the West End.

**WEDNESDAY, MAY 4**



Rep. Deasy's annual bus trip featuring luxury tour bus accommodations to Harrisburg to visit the Capitol and the State Museum, as well as a buffet dinner and free time at Hollywood Casino.

Call 412-928-9514 for details and to make reservations.

**SATURDAY, APRIL 23**

10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

On-site document-shredding event • Crafton Park

**SATURDAY, MAY 14**

10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

On-site document-shredding event • Green Tree Park

**Sign up for email updates**

I want to alert you to House rules that limit when I can contact you leading up to an election. **Unless you specifically opt in to continue receiving my emails**, I'm prohibited from sending you legislative email updates for 60 days before the 2016 primary and general elections.

Opting in will allow you to continue to receive notices about important issues that matter to you, including:

- Updates on legislation;
- News and events in the district; and
- Other relevant government-related information.



You can sign up to receive my email alerts – and opt in to continue to receive them before elections – by visiting my website at [www.pahouse.com/Deasy](http://www.pahouse.com/Deasy), clicking “Stay connected,” filling out the form and leaving the box checked.

**PennDOT program can provide help in emergencies**

Please be aware of a program offered by PennDOT that helps people immediately after a traffic accident when they may not be able to communicate their needs to police and first responders.



It's called the Yellow Dot Program. It gets your emergency contact and medical information promptly into the hands of emergency personnel at the scene of a crash.

Under the Yellow Dot Program, you fill out a form with your emergency contact information, medical history and medical contact information and put this information, along with a photo of yourself, in your vehicle's glove compartment. A yellow dot sticker goes on your back window. This sticker will alert first responders to check your glove compartment for your information in an emergency.

You can contact my office for more information or to obtain Yellow Dot materials. You can also find information by visiting [www.YellowDot.pa.gov](http://www.YellowDot.pa.gov).