



STATE REPRESENTATIVE
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 133RD LEGISLATIVE DISTRICT



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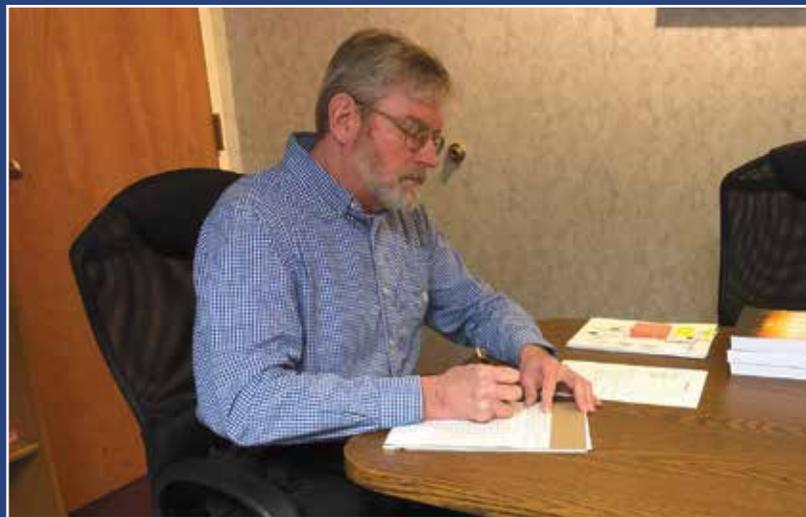
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Join the 2019 Senior Fair on April 26

Again this year, we will be co-hosting our annual Senior Fair with state Senator Lisa Boscola at the Whitehall Mall from 9 a.m. to noon Friday, April 26. We expect close to 80 vendors to participate. There will be free blood pressure screenings, vision checks, giveaways and refreshments as well as fabulous door prizes! Last year's event drew over 500 seniors, so don't miss out!

There is plenty of free parking, and the mall is accessible by LANTA bus routes 103, 325 and 602.



Monthly veterans outreach available at district office

On the third Monday of every month, our Veterans Outreach Specialist Joe Gunkel of the American Legion meets with any veteran, or family member of a veteran to answer any questions you may have about veteran benefits. Appointments are required to allow Joe to spend an adequate amount of time with each person. Please call our office and ask to make an appointment with our Veterans Outreach Specialist.



Fountain Hill Satellite Office open on Fridays

Every Friday from 9 a.m. to noon, a member of my staff will be available at the Fountain Hill Borough Hall located at 941 Long Street to help you with all of your state-related needs.





New PennDOT Center open in Whitehall

A new PennDOT Driver License Center has recently opened in Whitehall. Located at 1101 MacArthur Road, the center is open from 8:30 a.m. to 4:15 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday, and can help you with many PennDOT transactions, including non-commercial testing and REAL ID registration.



REAL ID available and info event May 8

As you may know, REAL ID is now available for Pennsylvanians who want one. Beginning October 1, 2020, you will need a REAL ID to board a domestic commercial flights or to enter a military installation of federal facility that requires ID. You are now able to obtain a REAL ID through the mail, online and in person at certain PennDOT Driver License Centers, including the new one on MacArthur Road.

To help you learn more about the documents needed to obtain a REAL ID, my office is hosting an informational event at 6 p.m. May 8 to answer any and all questions you may have about REAL ID. The event will be hosted at the Hanover Township, Lehigh County Fire Company at 1001 Postal Road in Allentown.

As always, if you need assistance before this event, please contact my office.



Get your property tax or rent rebate

Property Tax/Rent Rebate Program applications for the 2018 tax year are available – and my staff can help you file yours for free!

The rebate program benefits eligible Pennsylvanians 65 or older, widows and widowers 50 or older, and people with disabilities 18 or older. The income limit is \$35,000 a year for homeowners and \$15,000 annually for renters. Half of Social Security income is excluded and the maximum standard rebate is \$650.

Claimants must reapply for rebates every year because they are based on annual income and property taxes or rent paid each year. Spouses, personal representatives or estates may file rebate claims on behalf of deceased claimants who lived at least one day in 2018 and meet all other eligibility criteria. Members of my staff will be visiting many of the local senior living facilities to help residents with their applications. If you or a loved one live in a facility in our district that is not on our list, please call my office.



Out & About!



Left: Proud to stand with fellow legislators in support of Victoria's Law to better protect animals.



Right: Speaking at the Kaywin Neighborhood Block Watch Meeting.



Great running into my former student David during a tour of VIA in Bethlehem.



Right: Reading to Mrs. Walker's class at Calypso Elementary School in Bethlehem.

McNeill legislation addresses veterans' families, safe pet transport, school residency

I am planning on introducing several bills during the current legislative session, and I'd like to highlight a few of them.

- One bill would assist in the education of children of a veteran who is permanently disabled or killed in action by lowering the state residency requirement to one year from the current five years. Rarely are soldiers stationed at the same base for five years.
- My transporting dogs bill would ban placing a dog in a household crate and strapping the crate to the outside of a vehicle, or allowing a dog to freely roam in the bed of a pickup truck on any public road. Even a minor accident can cause a severe injury to a dog who is not inside a vehicle or being transported in an insulated, secured device or trailer that is used to transport hunting dogs.
- I became aware of a student who was recently disenrolled from his school because the school district determined that he wasn't a resident of the district. He missed several weeks of school while his residency was

determined via an appeal. A child should not be forced to miss any school while this process takes place. My bill would ensure children are kept in their current school until residency is determined and they are enrolled in the proper school so they do not miss any school days.

- One resolution would recognize May 19, 2019, as 22q at the Zoo Worldwide Awareness Day. 22q11.2 deletion syndrome is the second-most known chromosomal abnormality and has no current cure. While it is not life-threatening, it is extremely underdiagnosed due to lack of understanding. Founded in Philadelphia in 2011, 22q at the Zoo Worldwide Awareness Day is an annual event where volunteers, families and friends gather at local zoos and parks to raise the awareness of this poorly recognized disorder.



I met with Amirah Johnson who has 22Q deletion syndrome, pictured with her Mom Katrina Krasenits



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Dealing with spotted lanternfly



As we move into spring and summer, you may begin to notice spotted lanternflies around your home. Spotted lanternflies are invasive insects impacting communities around southeastern Pennsylvania and pose a serious threat to agriculture and our state's economy. You can help stop the spread of this destructive insect by scraping eggs, removing favored breeding grounds and using chemical control when appropriate.

To learn more or to report a sighting, you can call the Penn State Extension at 1-888-422-3359 or visit their website at extension.psu.edu/spotted-lanternfly.

Public Utility Commission sets UGI public hearing

The Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission has scheduled two public hearings on proposed UGI rate increases to determine if the increases are just and reasonable. The hearings will be on April 22 at 1 p.m. and 6 p.m. in Harrisburg at the Commonwealth Keystone Building with a livestream available around the state. If you wish to testify by phone at the hearings, you must contact the Office of Administrative Law Judge at 717-787-1399 no later than April 17. If you have any questions, please contact my office.

MY OFFICE CAN HELP YOU WITH:

- Car registrations, special tags, handicap placards, titles and driver's license applications
- Information on financial assistance for higher education
- Assistance in obtaining and completing state forms of all kinds
- Voter registration and absentee ballot applications
- Unemployment compensation, disability and workers' compensation
- Birth and death certificates
- Issues with the Department of Human Services (food stamps, medical and income assistance)
- Pennsylvania income tax questions or problems
- Requests for literature of all kinds – bills, regulations, statutes, Pennsylvania maps, senior citizen information
- Inquiries about utilities and the Public Utility Commission
- Issues with insurance companies
- Renewal of state-issued licenses or certifications
- PACE prescription-drug cards for senior citizens
- Consumer complaints
- Tours of the state Capitol for individuals or groups
- Information about federal, state and local government agencies

Any state government-related matter!