



# Ben ★★★★★ Sanchez

PA STATE REPRESENTATIVE  
153<sup>RD</sup> LEGISLATIVE DISTRICT



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- ✓ Hurricane Ida Recovery
- ✓ Municipal Elections and Voting
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AND MUCH MORE!



# The COVID Era Continues

In March 2020, the entire world was turned upside down. COVID-19 brought sickness, hospitalizations and, sadly, many deaths to our county and our commonwealth. After vaccinations became readily available, it looked as if soon the virus would be behind us. Unfortunately, it very much remains a threat. The best way to protect ourselves and our loved ones from the worst of COVID-19

**COVID-19**  
**Vaccines**  
**WORK.**

97% of deaths, 95% of hospitalizations, and 94% of cases in PA are among the unvaccinated.

Get your shot: [vaccines.gov](https://vaccines.gov)

is by making sure we're fully vaccinated and, when around large crowds of people, wearing masks. If you haven't already, please consider getting fully vaccinated. Visit [vaccines.gov/search](https://vaccines.gov/search) to find a COVID-19 vaccine near you. In Montgomery County, visit [montcopa.org/covid19](https://montcopa.org/covid19) to learn more about vaccinations, testing, COVID-19 rent and utility relief, and other resources available right now.



*Thank you to everyone who volunteered and opened their doors to the Rite Aid vaccine clinics in three parts of our community at the beginning of this year at the North Hills Community Center in concert with Antioch Baptist Church, Salem Baptist Church of Abington and First Baptist Church in Crestmont. Thank you to everyone who has worked hard to keep our community safe and healthy.*

**YES, WE ARE OPEN**

**WITH COVID PROTOCOLS IN PLACE**

Our priority is the collective safety of our constituents and our staff. To welcome everyone safely, we are asking you to:



## Hurricane Ida Recovery

The remnants of Hurricane Ida did tremendous damage to our region, not only with heavy rain and flooding, but with a tornado that ripped through parts of Upper Dublin. I have witnessed the devastated areas, and it was heartbreaking to see the destruction. If you or a loved one needs help with recovery, call my office, or visit [montcopa.org/Ida](https://montcopa.org/Ida) or [upperdublin.net/disaster-recovery-information](https://upperdublin.net/disaster-recovery-information) for resources.



# Municipal Elections

**2021 MUNICIPAL ELECTION IMPORTANT DATES**

- OCT 18** Last day to register to vote for the municipal election. [vote.pa.gov/register](https://vote.pa.gov/register)
- OCT 26** Last day to apply for a mail-in or absentee ballot. [vote.pa.gov/mailballot](https://vote.pa.gov/mailballot)
- NOV 02** Voted mail-in and absentee ballots must be received by the county by 8 pm. [vote.pa.gov/county](https://vote.pa.gov/county)
- NOV 02** Municipal election day. Polls are open from 7 am to 8 pm. [vote.pa.gov/polls](https://vote.pa.gov/polls)

**Vote.PA.Gov**

A reminder that there are municipal elections happening this fall. See the accompanying graphic for important dates to know. Election Day is Tuesday, Nov. 2. Visiting [Vote.PA.gov](https://Vote.PA.gov) will lead you to all the information you need to ensure you're registered.

Mail-in and absentee voting remains a safe, secure and easy way to participate in elections. For this election, requests must be received by Oct. 26 to vote by mail. To apply, visit [Vote.PA.gov/MailBallot](https://Vote.PA.gov/MailBallot).

For more localized information on voting,

please visit [montcopa.org/voterservices](https://montcopa.org/voterservices). Don't forget, poll workers are an integral part of our democratic process. You can learn more about becoming a poll worker at [montcopa.org/759/Pollworkers](https://montcopa.org/759/Pollworkers).

# Caring About This Community

*I love this community. This is where I'm from and exactly where I want to be. This is where I make my home today and where my wonderful wife and I are raising our children. And it's why I'm so passionate about working hard to be a positive force for all our friends and neighbors in the 153rd Legislative District.*



## Bucks-Mont Pride Fest

In July, I was fortunate to be a part of the first ever Bucks-Mont Pride Fest in our own backyard at the Abington Art Center in the Jenkintown section of Abington. I was proud to help spread awareness about where we are in PA in terms of legislation protecting LGBTQ+ people – and where we need to be.

## 9/11 Memorial Service



On Sept. 11, we joined together in Abington to honor the thousands of lives lost and the countless lives affected by the events of Sept. 11, 2001. It's hard to believe it's been 20 years since the tragedy of that day.

## Holocaust Awareness Museum

On Sunday, Sept. 12, I proudly presented a citation commemorating the 60th anniversary of the Holocaust Awareness Museum and Education Center while they opened a new location at Keneseth Israel in Elkins Park.



## Abington Pre-Night Out



I once again had a fantastic time this summer at Abington Township Police Department's "Pre-Night Out" event, which gave many of us a chance to hang out with our hard-working police officers and other first responders.

## NAACP Unity Day

The solemnity of the 9/11 event in Abington was followed directly by the joyful Willow Grove NAACP Unity Day. I was so happy and honored to attend and connect with members of our community!



## Upper Dublin Library

In July, I was delighted to tour the brand-new Upper Dublin Public Library with its outstanding director, Cherilyn Fiory, and board member, Joan Ryder. This gorgeous building and its capabilities far exceeded my already high expectations. What a beacon for our community!



## School Supply Drive

This summer provided yet another example of why I'm so proud to be part of this community, as so many friends and neighbors delivered for those families in need by donating to my annual School Supply Drive, with most donations benefiting the Breathing Room Foundation. On behalf of my office and all the children who benefited from your generosity, THANK YOU!



# WORKING HARD IN HARRISBURG

I work for the people of this community and this commonwealth, and a big part of that means legislating from the Capitol in Harrisburg. This term, I am serving on the following House committees: Appropriations, Health, Local Government and State Government. Here's a bit more about what I've been up to with my legislative efforts:



## BALLOT QUESTION REFORM

I will soon be introducing a bill that proposes an amendment to our Election Code, ensuring the voices of more Pennsylvanians will be heard when it comes to constitutional changes that affect us all. My bill would require that ballot questions, like the ones a small percentage of us answered during the spring primary ballot, be submitted to voters only during a general election and only every two years when there is a presidential or gubernatorial election. This will ensure that more voters have a say in amending our state constitution. Ideally, more voters would turn out to the polls for every election – because every election is important – but our history shows that this simply does not happen.



## PROHIBITION OF THE LGBTQ+ PANIC DEFENSE

Teaming with Rep. Mike Schlossberg of Lehigh County, we introduced a bill, H.B. 1582, that would prohibit the use of any LGBTQ+ panic defense in Pennsylvania, which is a defense theory that currently allows perpetrators of criminal actions against LGBTQ+ people to receive a lesser sentence – or even avoid conviction or punishment – by placing blame for their actions on a victim's actual or perceived sexual orientation, gender identity or gender expression. Use of this criminal justice loophole is a human rights violation and needs to be closed immediately. This bill was referred to the Judiciary Committee for further review.

## ESTABLISHING A 72-HOUR WAITING PERIOD FOR ALL FIREARM TRANSFERS

With Rep. Mike Zabel of Delaware County, I introduced a bill that would establish a 72-hour waiting period for all firearm transfers in the state of Pennsylvania. H.B. 1306 is the result of study after study supporting the fact that disrupting impulsive acts of violence and self-harm is established by instituting a waiting period. Lives are saved when more time is provided for individuals to gain perspective and seek necessary help. This bill was referred to the Judiciary Committee for further review.



## STAY CONNECTED

Get regular email updates from Harrisburg, vital information about what's happening in the district and across the state, and **news you can use** in your daily life.

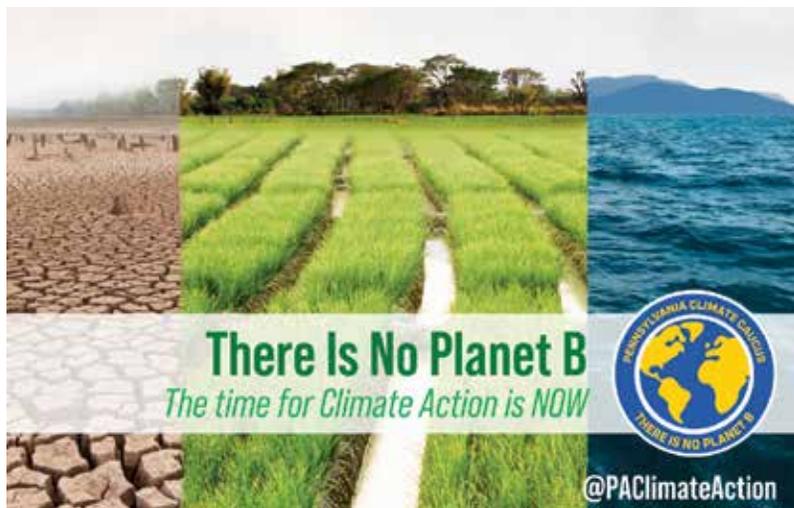
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**STAY INFORMED.**  
SIGN UP FOR MY EMAIL

First Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Last Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
City \_\_\_\_\_  
Pennsylvania \_\_\_\_\_  
Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
Email Address \_\_\_\_\_



# HONORING TWO LOCAL HEROES

*As an elected official, there are few moments more meaningful to me than being able to honor a hometown hero, which is exactly what we did on Independence Day weekend.*



**CAPT. SCHULTZ**

In what was a long time in the making, as the COVID-19 pandemic had postponed the ceremony, we proudly gathered to rename the Edge Hill Road Bridge to the **Captain Samuel Schultz Memorial Bridge**.

The ceremony provided a beautiful tribute to Capt. Schultz, a U.S. Marine, Abington High School graduate and Huntingdon Valley native who was killed during a 2018 military training exercise. I was truly honored to share this moment with his parents, family and friends, as well as several of my colleagues.

Thank you to everyone who was involved, to those who helped make this dedication ceremony all that it

was. And, of course, my deepest appreciation to Capt. Schultz's family for being so patient and helpful as this day finally came to fruition.

Being able to host this dedication ceremony was a distinct privilege, and I will forever keep Capt. Schultz and his family in my thoughts. Please think of this young man's courage and sacrifice whenever you cross the newly named Captain Samuel Schultz Memorial Bridge.



**CPL. WARGO**

On Sept. 15, 53 years after his death, I had the privilege and honor of leading the dedication ceremony of the **Corporal Vincent J. Wargo Jr., U.S.M.C. Memorial Highway**, a portion of Fitzwatertown Road that stretches from North Hills Avenue to Jenkintown Road.

Cpl. Wargo was a resident of Upper Dublin and a Bishop McDevitt High School graduate who enlisted in the U.S. Marine Corps, served bravely during the Vietnam War and saved multiple injured comrades before succumbing to his own wounds in battle on Sept. 15, 1968, at the age of 19. He was posthumously awarded the Silver Star and Purple Heart medals.

I hope that every time we drive down this roadway, we take a moment to remember those in the Armed Forces who risk and sacrifice their lives to protect ours. Thank you, Cpl. Wargo, and thank you to your incredible family.



State Representative  
**BEN SANCHEZ**

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Abington, PA 19001

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## FREE SHREDDING EVENT



**Representative  
Ben Sanchez  
Invites you to a**




# COMMUNITY SHREDDING EVENT

**PROTECT YOUR IDENTITY AND HAVE PERSONAL DOCUMENTS SHREDDED**

**SATURDAY, October 16, 2021**

**9 a.m. to 11 a.m.**

**PARKING LOT AT CORNER OF OLD YORK ROAD AND BRENTWOOD AVENUE  
(3 BLOCKS NORTH OF THE DISTRICT OFFICE)**

We will also be collecting non-perishable donations for the Interfaith Food Cupboard at the event. Feel free to bring some with you when you come!

**This is a FREE event for the residents of the 153<sup>rd</sup> district!**  
*Paper shredding only - Please no businesses*

**For more information, call Rep. Sanchez's office at 215-517-6800**

**MASKS REQUIRED - PLEASE STAY IN YOUR CARS, WE'LL COME TO YOU!**

## NEED HELP WITH THE FOLLOWING? CONTACT MY DISTRICT OFFICE:

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- Free notary services
  - SEPTA Senior KEY Card
  - Obtaining state tax forms
  - Assistance with applications such as:
    - Birth/Death certificates
    - Disability placards
    - Car registrations, license and renewals
    - PACE/PACENET prescription drug coverage
    - Property Tax/Rent Rebate Program
    - CHIP
  - Assistance with the Department of Human Services programs like SNAP, LIHEAP, etc.
  - Background clearance checks
  - Veteran information
  - Senior services
  - Requests for state literature and government documents, including maps, bills, regulations and statutes
  - Brochures and pamphlets on services/area information
  - Voter registration/absentee ballot applications
  - Provide and assist with PennDOT forms
  - Assistance with the Department of Revenue
  - Recognize and honor outstanding community leaders
  - Visit [RepBenSanchez.com/selfservice](http://RepBenSanchez.com/selfservice) for much more!