

STURLA

Report

From State Representative
MIKE STURLA
96th Legislative District

Fall 2016

WWW.PAHOUSE.COM/STURLA



Conestoga River Plaza Groundbreaking



Rep. Sturla joined Lancaster leaders at a groundbreaking ceremony for the Conestoga River Plaza. The Plaza will host a locally owned supermarket, restaurants and shops. Rep. Sturla commends Carlos Graupera and the Spanish American Civic Association (SACA) of Lancaster on this important project that will help keep money in the Southeast community and help to revitalize the region.

Pictured (l-r): Lisa Riggs, Economic Development Company of Lancaster; Tracy Fletcher, Fulton Bank; Rep. Sturla; Carlos Graupera, SACA; Dan Betancourt, Community First Fund; Lancaster Mayor Rick Gray; Dennis Davin, Secretary of the PA Dept. of Community and Economic Development; and Craig Lehman, Lancaster County Commissioner.

INSIDE:

- Details on the 5th Annual Back-to-School Backpack Giveaway
- A Bipartisan Approach to Tackling the Opioid Epidemic
- The Water Resource Act
- How can we help you?

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1,210+ Backpacks to Lancaster City School Children

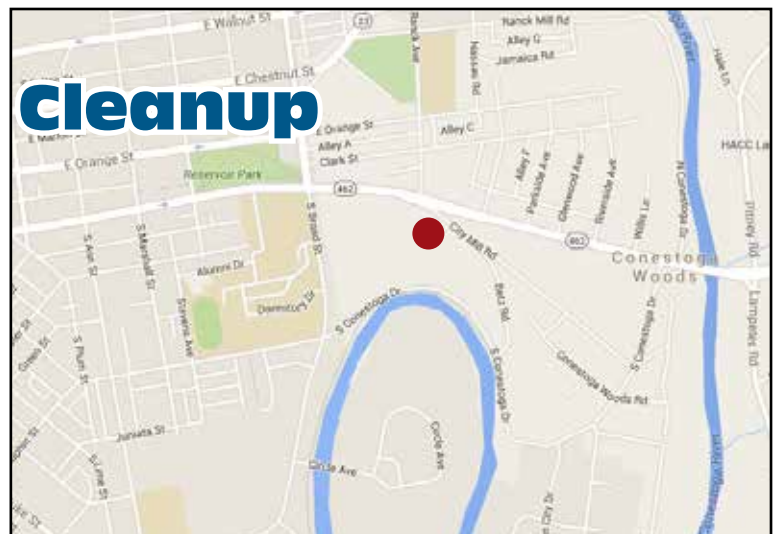
My 5th Annual Back-to-School Giveaway at the Lancaster Rec Center was once again a great success. Due to many generous donations, we were able to help over 1,210 children enter the upcoming school year prepared. If you missed the event and have a child in need of a backpack, contact my Lancaster Office at 717-295-3157.



YOU'RE INVITED! Day of Caring River Cleanup

Friday, Sept. 9 • 1 p.m. to 4 p.m.

Join my staff and me for a community cleanup of the Conestoga River. We will meet at 1 p.m. on Friday, Sept. 9 on South Conestoga Drive behind Conestoga View on East King Street. Volunteers should wear weather-appropriate attire and footwear. Long pants are highly recommended. Gloves will be provided. Volunteers must be 14 or older to participate. Anyone younger than 18 must participate with an adult. Please call my office at 717-295-3157 if you have any questions or need directions.



Around Lancaster & Harrisburg

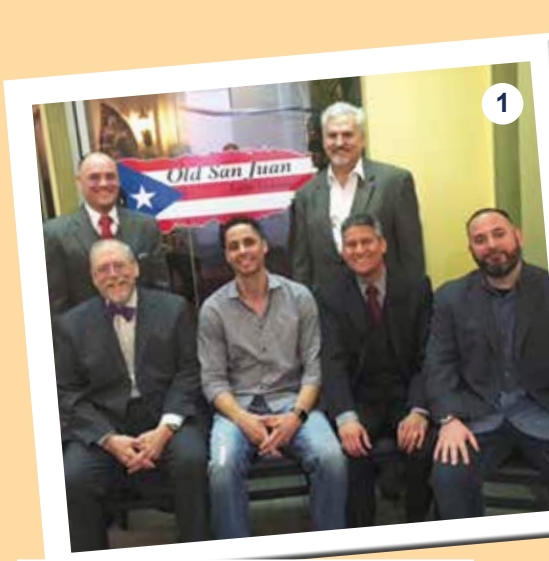
Literacy Council of Lancaster-Lebanon earns Seal of Excellence

I would like to congratulate the Literacy Council of Lancaster-Lebanon on its recent award of the Seal of Excellence from the Pennsylvania Association of Nonprofit Organizations. This award is granted to well-managed, responsibly governed organizations that deserve the public's trust and Literacy Council of Lancaster-Lebanon has served our community well.



The seal is a testament to its efficient operations, effectiveness in serving Lancaster citizens and meeting PANO's Guiding Principles and standards, at a time when our nonprofits are asked to make greater contributions to their surrounding communities.

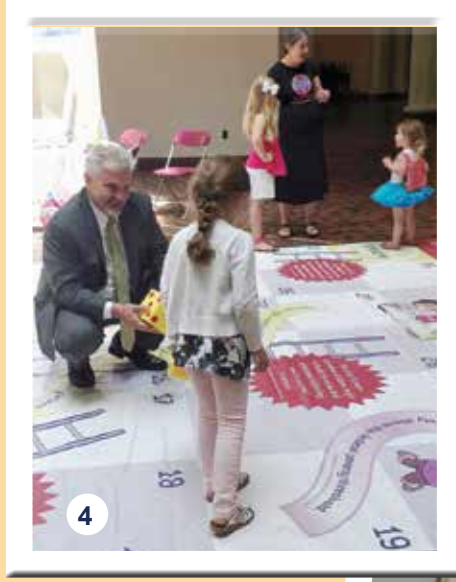
Visit www.pano.org/Standards-For-Excellence for additional information about the Standards of Excellence and how nonprofit organizations can earn the Seal of Excellence.



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1: Rep. Sturla attends the ribbon cutting for Old San Juan Restaurant in Lancaster City. Pictured (l-r), are Norman Bristol Colon, Sturla, Mayor Rick Gray, Daniel Falcon (owner), PA Department of State Secretary Pedro Cortes, and Councilman James Reichenbach. **2:** Rep. Sturla welcomes The Lancaster Young Professionals to his East King Street office for coffee and conversation about legislative matters impacting the region. **3:** Pictured (l-r), Rep. Sturla and PA Department of Agriculture Secretary Russell Redding toured Hammonds Pretzels in Lancaster with owners Karen Achtermann, Vice President, and Brian Nicklaus, President. **4:** Rep. Sturla shows his support for early childhood education by playing Chutes and Ladders with Pre-K children at the state Capitol.

 RepMikeSturla

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Basic Education Funding Formula Signed into Law



I had the opportunity to take part in the bill-signing ceremony for House Bill 1552, the Basic Education Funding Formula. As a member of the Basic

Education Funding Commission, I am proud to see this law enacted. The formula will help to make sure all schools in Pennsylvania are funded equitably and that our

children will have access to high-quality education. We still have a long way to go in restoring funding from years of cuts, but this is a big step in the right direction.

Long's Park Receives DEP Grant Funding

Long's Park recently received a \$200,000 grant from the Department of Environmental Protection. The grant is part of the Local Stormwater Best Management Practice Implementation Program and will help cut down on sediment and nutrient runoff in waterways.



A Bipartisan approach to tackling the Opioid Epidemic

As a member of the PA HOPE (Heroin, Opioid Prevention and Education) Caucus and Chairman of the House Democratic Policy Committee, I hosted bipartisan Policy Committee hearings with House Republican Policy Committee Chairman Kerry Benninghoff on how to combat the opioid epidemic across the state. To read the hearing testimony and see pictures, go to www.pahouse.com/policycommittee.

Visit my website to sign up for email updates. You'll receive periodic emails on what's happening in Harrisburg and our community.

Legislative website:
www.pahouse.com/Sturla

Committee website:
www.pahouse.com/PolicyCommittee



The Water Resource Act

I recently held a news conference unveiling the Water Resource Act, House Bill 2114. The bill would enact a water usage fee on water withdrawals from commonwealth waterways in excess of 10,000 gallons per day. Municipal and agricultural water use would be exempt.

Revenue generated from House Bill 2114 would be used to fund water-related programs and general governmental operations in the Department of Environmental Protection, Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, and the Fish and Boat Commission. Remaining money would be used to fund water-related projects within Pennsylvania's six major watersheds. There also would be an option to use remaining funds to pay debt service on a \$3 billion bond issue for environmental projects. The bill is awaiting consideration in the House Consumer Affairs Committee.



The container on the back of this pickup truck holds 300 gallons. A tanker truck holds about 10,000 gallons. The average American uses 10,000 gallons of water in 100 days.

Beware of “IRS” Scams

We have received reports of residents receiving phone calls from persons claiming they are from the IRS. The caller demands that payment be made in full or they threaten to take your house, vehicle or legal action.

Do not give out your personal information. The IRS DOES NOT collect delinquent taxes in this manner.

If you receive such a call, call the IRS Scam Reporting line at 1-800-366-4484 to report the call and give as much detail from the call as possible.

Always monitor your accounts. If you notice any unauthorized transactions, report them to your bank and call the police department to file a criminal report.

Does the state have something that belongs to you?

Nearly one in 10 Pennsylvanians is estimated to have unclaimed property with the Pennsylvania Treasurer's Office. This property includes any financial asset that may have inadvertently been left with a bank, insurance company, business or organization.

Those entities are required to transfer such property to the state Treasurer's Office, where it will stay until the owner claims it.

To find out if the state is holding on to your unclaimed property, contact my office at 717-295-3157. You can

also call 1-800-222-2046 or visit www.patreasury.gov/ and click "Unclaimed Property" to search the database. There is no charge to reclaim your property. Please ignore any solicitation from companies or individuals that attempt to charge you a fee to retrieve your property from Treasury.

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HERE TO SERVE YOU



Mena Rodriguez, Legislative Assistant; Greg Paulson, Chief of Staff; and Howard Jones, Legislative Assistant, are available to help you navigate state programs and services. Call my Lancaster office at 717-295-3157 or stop by the office at 150 E. King St. for free assistance.

Ayuda disponible en Espanol

Tengo la fortuna de tener personal bilingüe listo para ayudarle con cualquier problema relacionado con el estado. Puede llamar a la oficina al 717-295-3157 o pasar por la oficina localizada en el 150 E. King St., Lancaster. También puede contactar Mena Rodriguez al mrodriguez@pahouse.net.

National Drug Take-Back Day: Oct. 22, 2016

In an effort to reduce prescription drug abuse and keep our environment free from contaminants, the U.S. Department of Justice's Drug Enforcement Administration is championing a National Prescription Drug Take-Back Day. It's a safe way to dispose of prescriptions that you no longer need but are unsure of how to dispose of them.

As concerns over prescription drug abuse rise and Pennsylvania works to tackle the opioid/heroin epidemic in our state, it's more important now than ever to keep prescription drugs out of the hands of vulnerable citizens.

Our local drop offs are at the following locations:

East Lampeter Twp. Police Dept.

2250 Old Philadelphia Pike
Lancaster, PA 17602
717-291-4676

Monday through Friday | 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Lancaster County Adult Probation

40 East King Street
Lancaster, PA 17602

Monday through Friday | 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

You don't have to wait for National Drug Take-Back Day to drop off your unused prescriptions. Stop by the local drop offs during their hours of operations.

